

April 6, 1992

LB 1192

SENATOR CONWAY: The amendment to the amendment is adopted. We're back to the committee amendments. Anyone wishing to speak to the committee amendments as amended? Seeing no lights, Senator Hall, would you like to close on the committee amendments?

SENATOR HALL: (Mike off) adoption, Mr. President.

SENATOR CONWAY: You have heard the motion to adopt the committee amendments. All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. We are voting on the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 1192. Have you all voted? Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of committee amendments.

SENATOR CONWAY: Committee amendments are adopted. We are to LB 1192, Senator Lindsay.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Senator Conway, members. Senator Hall, in his opening on the committee amendments I think set forth that the committee amendments do, in fact, become the bill. He has described the technical side of the committee amendments. I guess I would like to go to the problem that is trying to be addressed, that is the issue of homelessness. I should point out this bill is addressed to the hard-core homeless, aimed at those who are very literally living on the streets, or in their cars, or somewhere other than having a place to go home to. You can imagine getting out of work or getting out of the Legislature, even, and going home, or excuse me, going out to your car intending to go home and realizing you are already there. And that is the type of thing that is faced by anticipated 2,500 Nebraskans in this year, in 1992. That is exactly what will happen, simply have nowhere to go. The fact is that since 1987 homelessness has increased over 300 percent. It is just the problem continues to grow, and in Nebraska, we haven't really taken any steps forward to try to address the problem, not only at its roots, but also at the affect, to get the problem or the symptom even addressed, and that is what this bill attempts to do. Now those who are homeless, when we talk about the homeless, we usually think, or a lot of times we think of the stereotypical vagrant the person who doesn't want to help himself or herself, that lives life out of a brown paper bag, and all the other stereotypes that you will hear, and that