

September 30, 1992 LB 10

State of Nebraska and for the National Guardsmen in the State of Nebraska.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Conway.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I will be very brief. I have requested that there be a machine vote so that people will have an opportunity to go on the board and I wanted to apprise you that I will be voting no for the advancement. I think the committee worked hard in trying to come up with solutions to actually save money but do it in such a way that would not encumber the recruitment potential. You have heard all the debate associated with the fact that should the strengths drop, given what is going on in other states, that we may be subject to federal cutbacks. That, in and of itself, has an economic impact to the state as well as the services that may or may not be rendered by these guardsmen given various disasters that may or may not come. So I think we have tried to affect the budget in a positive way with various amendments that seemed to be rejected along the way, and so at this point, I feel committed to not advancing the bill and possibly be looking at the program in January when we have an opportunity to see how we can do it in such a way that it doesn't provide any negative impacts.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Conway. Anyone else wishing to speak? Seeing no one, we will now vote on the advancement. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: I will close on the advancement of the bill and show my cold, cold heart one last time, I guess, tonight. But the thing about it is we are in a business where it is always...everything we do is how you are going to put the spin on something. I mean that's, look at the debates, you look at the presidential election, it is how you put the spin on something and, obviously, the last several speakers put a somewhat more of a morbid spin on what we are doing here. And this is not the death of the National Guard nor is it, a vote for this bill, a slap on the face of the National Guard, and Senator Hillman did the best job of putting the spin on. I mean, look, even with this amendment, we are light years ahead of where Kansas is, and they make this sound like its the best deal since sliced bread down there, and it is not near as good as what we have got after this amendment. You know, as I started on this bill the other day, I complimented the