

January 27, 1995 LB 92

SENATOR BROMM: No.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Any further discussion on the committee amendments? Senator Kristensen, closing on the committee amendments?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to close just real briefly to make sure that I also have the record straight here. There is an existing penalty, this is not creating a new crime. There is already a penalty if you, in effect, hot wire and go around the meter, and let's just say that you've been shut off...the electricity, and you bypass the meter and you hot wire it and do those things. There's an existing penalty. All this does is add another act that would be subject to that penalty, and that's reconnected unlawfully after you've been properly disconnected. With that, I would urge the adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER WITHEM: You've heard the closing. Question is, shall the committee amendments be adopted? All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record.

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

SPEAKER WITHEM: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Bromm, opening on your bill.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll be relatively brief, unless there are questions from the body. We discussed the bill and its elements in the committee amendments section. Again, LB 92 maintains the Class III misdemeanor penalty in this same area, only it extends it to the situation where someone reconnects a utility service which has been lawfully disconnected without the knowledge and consent of the utility company itself, whereas before the law dealt with a situation Senator Kristensen mentioned of hot wiring or bypassing the meter. And this again makes it unlawful to reconnect on your own without the knowledge and consent of the utility, or without the utility coming out and reconnecting it themselves. Unless there are questions, I will curtail my opening and waive closing, unless there are intervening speakers.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Bromm. There appear to be no intervening speakers. Do...you indicated you would waive