

SPEAKER WITHEM: The Lindsay amendment is adopted. Anything further on the bill?

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill at this time, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Motion then is to advance LB 20 to E & R initial. Is there any discussion? Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I haven't entered into this discussion because I've been thinking about the issue. The other day when I came in LB 20 came up, I'm not sure what I was doing but I think my sympathy was probably questioned whether we needed it. And then I was thinking back of all the discussions I've had as well as others about tax incentives, about craining funds, how we need to attract people to the state and then I was thinking about the discussions that we had last summer in the Revenue seminars about demographics and that because people simply weren't born 20 years ago in the kind of numbers in the country, in the kind of numbers that we were looking for to bring people here. I heard the same kind of comments as many of you did up at the Legislative Council. I was in Denver a month ago, I heard the same kind of comments there and it appears to me that as a state we are very likely going to be looking at immigrants again, not necessarily from this country, and in that process it's going to mean a lot of things that we look at a little differently in way of perhaps education, some of the social issues possibly. But as I listen to the discussion I would hope that perhaps this bill should be passed because I tend to look upon it maybe of a concept that we are going to be faced as a policy matter a number of times in the next few years as we attempt to expand our economy, as we attempt to add people and can't provide more job opportunities. Hopefully those job opportunities are going to be pinpointed for economic opportunities for individuals that will be a plus and not just a drag on things, but I do think that we are getting to a point where this kind of policy needs to be considered seriously and probably begin to be adopted and certainly could be some refinements would be less onerous perhaps to the operation, but the goal of trying to absorb people in an orderly way who come to this state to seek employment is a route I think we're going to be facing a lot and for those reasons I'd urge that the bill be advanced.