

May 9, 1995

LB 418

they are because it's your amendment that changed the committee amendments completely. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Madam President, the amendment 1456 that was adopted to LB 418 the last time we addressed this bill phases in the increase for the amount that can be charged by newspapers to subdivisions for legal notices. It phases that in starting in September of 1995, the increase from 37 cents to 41 cents, and in September of 1996 the increase would go from 41 cents to 45 cents. The other adjustments to the bill would be there would be no provisions for any annual adjustment by the executive branch. The conversion table for the increase was placed back into the statute that was eliminated when 418 was first introduced. And finally the last provision that has been negotiated by the individual parties was that political subdivisions and the newspapers cannot negotiate the rates for the legal notices. As was indicated the first time since 1989 that there has been a provision to increase the rates that newspapers can charge for legal notices, I think it was outlined fairly clearly the value legal notices provide in our system and the value of newspapers to the small communities that they serve. With that I'll yield back any remaining time, it might be to either Senator Schellpeper or Senator Kristensen.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Yes, Madam Chairman and members, the committee amendments, we thought they were all worked out with the newspapers, the counties and everyone else, but I guess maybe they weren't and now the amendment that was actually stricken with the Maurstad amendment it's something that increases the rate for legal notices in the original bill from 37 cents per line to 46 cents per line and from 32 cents per line to 40 and one-fourth cents per line. So I think it's a compromise that over from one year to the next is acceptable to everyone concerned and with that I would close on the committee amendments. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Avery would move to amend the committee amendments. (AM2020 appears on pages 2045-46 of the Legislative Journal.)