

May 30, 1995

LB 283

LR 257, 259, 260-263

additional subdivisions of government to this penalty. I don't have a problem in saying that to begin with...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...we're going to start out and have the State of Nebraska be the first area where we basically do a test run on this increased penalty. After that we can move back to the other subdivisions of government. There will only be a few of them that it will impact, yes, Omaha is one, but I don't have any problem saying that let's pass it at the state level. If we're going to pass this bill at all this year it probably should be just brought in on an incremental basis, and that's really all, as I understand, the compromise amendment will do. It just says that we'll first start with the state. Senator Wehrbein stated we'll come back and deal with other subdivisions of government at a later date. I can support that in concept and would urge you to do the same. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hall. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LR 263, LR 262, LR 261, LR 260, LR 259 and LR 257. Senator Warner would like to announce that the following guests are visiting the Legislature, there are 11 Boy Scouts here from Troop 45 in Lincoln, Nebraska with their Scout Master. They are in the north balcony. Will you all stand and be recognized, please. Welcome to the Legislature. Senator Abboud, your light is next.

SENATOR ABOUD: Madam President, members, I'm a believer in the bill. I felt that the committee, when we examined the bill as it was originally introduced and made the changes that this Legislature adopted in the form of the committee amendments, I felt that the bill was in a form that was ready to be enacted. And I feel that the standards established by the Omaha Police Department I would assume would be on par with what the State Patrol provides. And I feel that those animals are in just as need of protection as what we're providing for with the State Patrol's animals. I understand Senator Wehrbein's position, it's the last day to amend on Select File, and he'd like to see something enacted by this Legislature. But I don't see any good public policy reason why we should not include political subdivisions that are currently using police horses or dogs in their law enforcement activities. I feel it's a mistake. I think if we're chopping up.... The complaint is always raised