

February 8, 1996 LB 938, 1072

closing. The question is the advancement to E & R Initial of LB 1072. All in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record please.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance the bill, Madam President.

SENATOR CROSBY: LB 1072 advances. Before we continue to the next bill I'd like to call the senators attention, Senator Hilgert has as his guests this morning, Tim Begley from Omaha, and he's under the south balcony. Would you like to stand and be welcomed by your Legislature. Thank you. Senator Kristensen...excuse me, LB 938. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: LB 938 was introduced by Senator Kristensen. (Read title.) The bill was read for the first time on January 3 of this year. The bill was referred to the Transportation Committee. The committee reports the bill to General File with no committee amendments.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Kristensen, to open on LB 938.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. Each year it's a requirement that we update our federal motor carrier safety rules and regulations, and this is in regards to hazardous materials regulations as well. And what happens is instead of us writing our own rules and regulations, we adopt what the federal rules and regulations are as of a certain date. We will do this through this bill. It saves us, obviously, a lot of time, effort, administrative monies, and we adopt those rules and regulations effective the first of January, 1996. That's what this bill does. The other part of the bill, which is extremely important to a number of members and we've done in the past, is that this puts us in conformance with some of the federal tolerance guidelines which authorizes the grandfathering of some drivers who didn't meet the federal driver qualification requirements. And also it authorizes us and it allows us to adopt the language that Congress did last year for us and for this Legislature in terms of exempting agriculture related commercial vehicle operators from the federal hours service requirement, was a big problem. This Legislature has grappled with this Congress saw fit to allow us to do this. And really what we need to do is determine some seasons for ourselves, what the planting and harvesting seasons