

April 1, 1996

LB 1391

1391, I would like to announce that Senator Schmitt has 20 twelfth graders from Greeley, Nebraska, seated in the north balcony, and their teacher. Would you please rise and let us welcome you this morning. Good to have you with us. Is Senator Maurstad here? E & R amendments. Senator Abboud, would you move the E & R amendments, please?

SENATOR ABOUD: Yes, Mr. President, I'd move the E & R amendments.

SENATOR COORDSEN: You've heard the motion to adopt the E & R amendments. Those in favor please say aye. Those opposed nay. The E & R amendments are adopted. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Withem would move to amend. The amendment is on page 1401 of the Journal. (AM3989)

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, I talked about this amendment on General File, indicated we were going to have some discussions with the Clerk's Office on...the Court Administrator's Office on this measure. We've had those discussions and it appears as though an amendment on the claims bill would be needed if this issue is going to be resolved. It deals with a long-time court reporter working currently in the Sarpy County Separate Juvenile Court, a 17-year employee. It involves some miscommunications in regard to vacation taken. Typically, the rule is that a court reporter takes vacation at the same time the judge does; ergo if the judge is out of town then the court reporter, there's nothing to report, so that's the appropriate time for the court reporter to take time. In Sarpy County there is a 52-week run of the Separate Juvenile Court. When the judge takes vacation, and Judge Gendler actually takes vacation fairly rarely, they bring in other judges so it doesn't make a lot of difference. There has to be a substitute court adminis...a substitute court reporter anyway. Gretchen Thomas had thought she had cleared things properly with the Court Administrator's Office. It...there was some breakdown in communication evidently. She felt that she had gone through the proper procedures to receive permission to take her vacation at a time other than when the judge took vacation. She made arrangements for the hiring of a court reporter, to the tune of \$823.30. After the fact, she found out that this was not