

April 4, 1996

LB 829, 1368

CLERK: Senator Maurstad, with respect to Legislative Bill 1368, I do have Enrollment and Review amendments pending, Senator.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Madam President, I'd move to adopt the E & R amendments to LB 1368.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Is there any discussion? Seeing none, the question before you is the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 1368. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed nay. The E & R amendments are adopted.

CLERK: Madam President, a series of amendments to the bill. Pursuant to the Speaker's directive, the first amendment to the bill because of its major proposal designation is AM4383 offered by Senator Withem. (See pages 1856-57 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, first of all, I'll point out that this is one of the problems with the new rule, that new power that you gave me. I'm being presumptive here and placing my own amendment at the top, but I'm doing so for I think good...thank you, Senator Chambers, I was hoping for some reaction. I'm doing so, I think, for good...for the good of the body to get an issue that was gnawing at a number of members here on General File up and dealt with at the beginning, and it's my understanding that the issue underlying here may still, in fact, be a controversial issue, but at least from individuals I've talked to about what I'm proposing to do here it doesn't seem to cause a lot of difficulty and I think what it does is it alleviates a problem that existed in the underlying bill, LB 829 that was passed last year, which I was principal sponsor, and I will get into the point. A little history on how I became to be interested in offering an amendment this year. It all began with a friendly grocer friend of ours who asked me, as we were debating 1368, about the overwithholding issue. If you remember, LB 829 says for one of these large companies to whom we're giving these benefits that they don't have to turn in their...the income tax that they've withheld from an individual to Lincoln. Instead, they get to keep that and spend it on employer training programs, employer safety programs, and other employee benefit types of programs. The question that was asked