

April 4, 1996

LB 361, 1076

volunteers, but some...an example is Gering, Nebraska, that has a paid chief, but the rest of them are volunteers?

SENATOR WILL: That would be my interpretation, that a paid member would be covered whereas a volunteer member would not, in a mixed case like that that you have brought up.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Okay. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. President. If Senator Will would yield to a question.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Yes.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Senator Will, has there been a fiscal note attached to this? Do we know what kind of impact this will have at the local level? I don't have that bill before me, but I thought I'd inquire.

SENATOR WILL: The...Senator Maurstad, there was a fiscal note to LB 361. The...there's no impact to the state. The city of Omaha fiscal note states that the impact may be significant but is unknown because the fact is there has not been an actuarial analysis. The fact is that if you look at the cases, at least in the cases of deaths that have occurred over that ten years from '84 to '93, there have been 40 statewide of firefighters. So I would anticipate that the, while the incidence is fairly low, the impact on an individual could be...might be significant.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Did you do an analysis on that time period for what the costs would have been at that...at that time if this law would have been into effect?

SENATOR WILL: No, I did not, Senator Maurstad. I would indicate that I don't know...either...I assume some of these may have been covered anyway because at the present time there's nothing that precludes a firefighter from being covered under a plan if they can go in and present evidence. What the amendment would simply do is say that there is prima facie evidence that