

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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problems with liability. Do you want your political subdivision to have to pay more for liability coverage? These are the questions you should ask yourself before you automatically push the green light, and I have thought about all of these things and am not going to support this at this time. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, General Affairs will conduct an Executive Session at 11:30 in Room 2022; General Affairs, 11:30, 2022.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. For further discussion on the advancement of LB 253, the Chair recognizes Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the...excuse me, members of the body, this is a bill that was heard by the Government Committee. There were a number of proponents of the bill--the League of Municipalities, County Officials, some county officials, the city of Omaha--and there were...there was some opposition to the bill from the Engineers and Architects. But the bill did advance 7 to 1 and that actual 1 was not a no. It was a present and not voting. I guess I think that maybe this is much ado about nothing because we're really talking about buildings that can be built for less than \$80,000, or structures, and there aren't that many, frankly, that can be built for that amount. And I think the committee felt that we were really keeping with the original intent back in 1979 of there should be certain limits at which you, if you're below, you don't need all of this specification and that they ought to be exempt. And I think that you...we could argue about the \$80,000, we could make it \$60,000, but I think Senator Wehrbein provided a rationale that, at least to Government Committee, seemed fair and reasonable and was not unduly alarming. I think it is just common sense that every once in awhile you need to consult the Consumer Price Index and make those changes and I wish they'd do that with our salaries one of these days. Thank you very much. (Laughter)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Chair recognizes Senator Janssen.