

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 22, 2000 LB 953, 1257, 1310, 1311

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 953 has been discussed on Select File. E & R amendments have been adopted. The bill was laid over on a motion by Senator Matzke to indefinitely postpone the bill. I have a note that Senator Matzke wants to withdraw that particular motion at this time, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is withdrawn...or the motion is withdrawn.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hilgert would move to amend with AM2957. (Legislative Journal page 1197.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Hilgert, you're recognized to open on AM2957 to LB 953.

SENATOR HILGERT: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Sometime ago, I think it was last week, but time flies when you're having fun down here, I attempted to put an amendment on this bill that contained three bills: LB 1257, a modified version of that; LB 1311; and LB 1310. Some controversy arose out of LB 1310, which was my bill. The other two bills are from the administration, basically Department of Labor. I took an attempt to put all three bills together into one amendment in an effort to get one of my bills passed. That, of course, created some controversy and the amendment was not adopted. We're back now this week with a new amendment not including LB 1310, my bill. This amendment only includes a revised version of LB 1257 and a version of LB 1311. LB 1311 is from the Department of Labor. It was a lengthy bill that only reflected a one word change. On LB 1311 there was an "or," the word "or," o-r, was stricken. That was the sum and substance of LB 1311. The impact of striking that one two-letter word was a \$10.8 million federal grant. So it was an \$11 million strike of that two-letter word. LB 1257 is somewhat more involved. LB 1257 is the state's implementation of the Workforce Investment Act. Through negotiations with the Department of Labor Commissioner Butch Lecuona, my offices, the staff of the Business and Labor Committee, and I believe representatives of the administration was also apprised, we came up with a revision of LB 1257 which incorporated some of the concerns that were aired at the hearing by members of our Business and Labor Committee. All parties that I had mentioned, the administration, the Department of