

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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April 11, 2000 LB 717
 LR 367

property. This is a very inexpensive insurance policy for each of our counties. I'm not standing here asking for \$150,000 for Douglas County; this money goes to virtually every county in this state. This goes to ever one of your districts. Some of you will get more of this than others. This is a local issue, it's a locally generated plan, put together, supported at the local level by business, by local government officials, by the media, by citizens in the various counties across the state. This is something that can potentially, as I said, save lives. The volunteer firefighters, as well as those professional firefighters, certainly know...need to know what they're getting into before there is an incident. By having that information, by having it in advance, they can plan and prepare. By having evacuation plans, knowing transportation routes, knowing where the materials are stored and how they're transported to those storage sites and away from them is imperative to be able to do good planning. That's exactly what these volunteers do, they plan, they prepare, and in so doing they are ready in the...hopefully, nonexistent event, but we know that those occurrences do happen when we least expect them. I hope that we never have to hear those words, why weren't we prepared? Why weren't we ready? Why wasn't this catastrophe avoided? This is prevention, this is something that I think we need to do. I didn't hand out to you again a second time the handout that I provided when I introduced the bill. It shows a map of Nebraska with all of the counties on that map. There are only four counties in the state, from 1999, that did not have a hazardous material incident that was reported. Now, my guess is they probably also had some, but they just weren't reported. But nearly 2,000 hazardous material incidents have already occurred across the state of Nebraska in the five years, from '94 through '99, there likely have been others since then, 2000 hazardous material incidents, some more grave than others. We need to be prepared and that's what this funding would do. It would allow approximately \$2,000 to each of the LEFCs to do that planning, to do that preparation. And I would ask you to support the override. I would ask for your yes vote on this motion. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LR 367. Debate on the motion to override? Senator Don