

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

January 24, 2003 LB 5, 30, 34, 35, 67, 68, 70, 71, 93, 103
106, 107, 137, 167, 182

CLERK: Mr. President, your Committee on Natural Resources reports LB 34 to General File; LB 35 to General File; and LB 30 to General File with amendments; LB 93, General File with amendments; those reports signed by Senator Schrock. Your Committee on Enrollment and Review reports LB 68 to Select File, LB 106, LB 103, LB 137, LB 182, LB 70, LB 71, LB 107, LB 67, all to Select File, some having Enrollment and Review amendments. I have a rereference, Mr. President, referring LB 540 from Revenue to the Education Committee. A series of hearing notices from General Affairs, from the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee, and from the Revenue Committee. And, Mr. President, Senator Engel would like to print an amendment to LB 5 in the Legislative Journal. And that's all that I have at this time, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 302-305.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Next agenda item, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next bill this morning, LB 167, by Senator Janssen. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 10, referred to the Urban Affairs Committee, advanced to General File. At this time, Mr. President, I have no amendments to the bill.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Janssen, you're recognized to open on your bill, LB 167.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Members of the Legislature, this bill, LB 167, is fairly...fairly simple. It would raise the minimum death benefit life insurance provided for volunteer fire and rescue personnel from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Now, currently, the governing body of any municipality having a volunteer fire department or a board of directors of a rural or suburban fire protection district have to maintain a life insurance policy of their volunteer firefighters. Currently, the minimum death benefit is \$5,000. This bill would change that minimum amount to \$10,000. The amount has been unchanged since 1971, and if any of you have had the unfortunate task of burying a loved one lately, you'll know that the costs have risen considerably in the last 32 years. So I think it's time. The bill was brought through...came through the committee last