

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

February 24, 2004 LB 1049

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal page 745.)  
23 ayes, 7 nays, Mr. President, on the amendment.

SPEAKER BROMM: The amendment is not successful. I will raise  
the call.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have to the bill is,  
Senator Beutler, AM2553. (Legislative Journal page 591.)

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Beutler, to open on your amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Bromm, members of the Legislature,  
this is an amendment that would identify as just cause a  
particular situation that I've described to you a little bit in  
a previous discussion, and if we're going to further disqualify  
people for situations that are not just cause, then I want to  
look a little more closely at all the situations that are or are  
not just cause. So I would like to include in the definition of  
just cause this particular situation, and it's described,  
perhaps...I should describe it first, perhaps, by reiterating to  
you exactly what the amendment says. But it says leaving work  
voluntarily for the sole purpose of relocating in order to allow  
a spouse to accept previously secured, permanent full-time work,  
which the spouse does accept, is good cause if the spouse's work  
offers a reasonable expectation of betterment of wages or  
working conditions. So, for example, if there is a man and a  
wife and his family of four and they're in Iowa and he improves  
his skills, he improves his education, he goes to night school,  
he comes over to Nebraska, because he has a job in Nebraska and  
he's not even going to take out anything or ask for anything  
under the unemployment system because he's moving right into a  
new job. But in order to support their four kids, the wife has  
had to work too, because they both have low wages. When she  
leaves her job in order to follow him, she is disqualified  
because she is not leaving work for a just cause. And what I'm  
suggesting is that that should be just cause, because, as a  
family unit, and I think you should look at it as a family unit,  
because today in America, for most people to stay in the middle  
class, both husband and wife have to work, that we should  
recognize that fact; that we should recognize that for the  
betterment of the system people who change jobs and work up