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February 26, 2004 LB 835, 841, 961
LR 11, 202

later than usual and it did cause some inconvenience for the 34,000 Nebraska teachers who receive these statements. In addition, each of these certified mail statements cost around \$4.40 a letter, and by sending these statements first-class mail instead of by certified mail, NPERS estimates that it will save over \$166,000 each year that they are mailed out. Under LB 961, the teachers will still receive the same exact information, except that the statements will be mailed out first class instead of certified mail. The initial...I believe it was felt that the initial certified letter was a good thing, but being the third time around the feeling is that the certified letter has actually served its purpose, and also records are now provided electronically and there is less need for certified letters. Because of the savings and the inconvenience and the benefit, I would ask your support for LB 961, which changes the requirement from certified letter to first class. Thank you.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Further discussion on the bill? Seeing none, the Chair would recognize Senator Stuhr to close. She waives closing. The question is the advancement of LB 961 to E & R Initial. All those in favor please vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 961.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Bill is advanced. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, may I read some items?

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: A series of amendments to be printed: Senator Byars to LB 841, Senator Smith to LR 11CA. And, Mr. President, your Committee on Transportation reports LR 202 back to the Legislature for further consideration. (Legislative Journal pages 787-790.)

Mr. President, the next bill, LB 835 by Senator Kremer. (Read title.) Introduced on January 7 of this year, referred to the