

March 15, 1976

amendments and Senator Schmit's amendments that perhaps you could have some tools in front of you to expedite things. Until those tools are available I think a lot of debate is going to have to go on and will drag out. Twenty-five amendments to that bill is going to take an awful long time.

I would support the Speaker's motion.

PRESIDENT: Senator Burrows.

SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I support the Speaker's motion. I think Senator DeCamp gave the best arguments for supporting the Speaker.

LB 703 is a bill that doesn't even face into the real problems that we're dealing with in malpractice legislation. We have not been provided any statistics to show the collections are the cause of the problem. I've tried to work this out from the research people, from the State Insurance Commissioner and all I've got is fragmented statistics as to the payoffs for the take. It appears to me that we have about 1500 physicians taking about....

PRESIDENT: Excuse me, Senator Burrows, I must interrupt you. I think you're talking about the merits of 703 rather than the procedural matter we have.

SENATOR BURROWS: I believe the procedural matter depends upon the merits. One Senator is trying to place his bill to the front of the order on the basis that it has great merits. I question these merits. I think to override the Speaker he should be showing merits of the bill that it is extraordinary in its merits. Therefore, I think it is very important that we consider ... that we do not have the statistics to support this. The insurance corporations are taking approximately \$2.7 million out of this state returning, to the best of my information, about \$500,000 a year or less than 20 percent of their take. Parimutuel betting pays off 85 percent. There is no reason, that if the bill is passed, to assume that the rates are going to be reduced in this state if we pass 703.

I support the Speaker in this situation. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I too support the Speaker. The best support that I can give to him is to oppose him on this particular issue of whether we're going to debate 703 today, or whether we're not. We should debate it today. It is difficult and that's the reason we should do it now. We got it in our minds, we've got the two days, two and a half days of debate in our mind right now. It's a part of our personality. We put that off for a week and we'll lose that feel and that touch that we've developed on 703.

We must pass or flunk the budget bills, there's no doubt about that. This body would be negligent if they did not. We'd be called into special session. If it takes night work to do it we're going to have to take night work to pass those budgets. However, we're just going to make