

March 2, 1984

LB 682

Hastings, Lexington and so on that it is sometimes difficult to get people to run for political jobs involving city government and we certainly do not want to put in legislation that keeps these people from being good citizens and conducting the business of the city. 682 cleans the old bill up quite well and will enable the people running city government to do a free hand and not be subjected to penalty for helping their city government. I move that the bill be advanced.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Senator Jacobson touched on one of my questions but I guess I am not totally satisfied so I am going to ask Senator Landis if he would yield to a question.

SENATOR LANDIS: Sure.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Senator Landis, we are reducing the penalty for willful violation of this law from felony to a Class III misdemeanor. Now this does have to be a willful violation. Could you explain more of why you felt that should be reduced and by that much?

SENATOR LANDIS: Right. It is a reduction to the highest grade misdemeanor from the lowest grade felony.

SENATOR PIRSCH: It says Class III misdemeanor. At least in the committee...

SENATOR LANDIS: All right, you may be right. I have...my own notes do not indicate the class that the misdemeanor moved down to. If you say that is it, I will check the bill and see but we will assume that it is.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Was it the intention of the committee to be a Class I misdemeanor?

SENATOR LANDIS: The intention of the committee and the intention of the bill drafting was to reduce from a felony status to a misdemeanor status, the reason being that the