

CLERK: I have a motion before that, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Oh, okay.

CLERK: Before that, however, I have a communication from the Governor addressed to the Clerk. (Read. Re: 60. See pages 2726-27 of the Legislative Journal.

Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to reconsider the Final Reading vote on LB 157.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, 157, of course, is the prejudgment interest bill and historically we have struggled to try to resolve this particular problem and we have never, in fact, done anything about it, never have gotten even a compromise in place on this particular question, and as you are aware, it did fail on Final Reading by a couple of votes. It failed for the reason, I believe, that there were a few people missing. One of the harshest rules we have in this Legislature, truly one of the harshest rules that we have is the rule that says you need 30 votes to reconsider a bill lost on Final Reading. If you lose it on General File or if you lose it on Select File, it is 25 votes but to reconsider it on Final Reading is 30 votes. And yet if you are a proponent of a particular bill and you lose it simply for reasons that don't have to do with the substance of the issue, that have to do with the irrational factors...with the rational factors, with the fact that two people may be down at the Governor's Office at a particular moment in time, you probably feel very cheated and the state is cheated. Everybody is cheated because there is not a vote of all the members of the Legislature on the substance of the issue, and I know that if you were in that position that you would want to afford, that you would want the Legislature to afford you the opportunity to reconsider and to have a true vote on the issue and so I hope you will keep that in mind today. This isn't my bill. This is a Banking Committee bill, but I think that they deserve for all of the work they have done this year, for all the work they have done the year before, for all the years they have tried to address this question, I think they deserve a vote of all of us, all 49 of us on the substance of the issue, and with that,