

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

February 18, 1997 LR 8

just don't vote, but if we decide that every proposal that is submitted to us is going to be run across the board because it has been offered, maybe it wouldn't be necessary to discuss any of these amendments because the ultimate aim is to advance it anyway. I hope that we will take seriously our lawmaking function, and especially when we're addressing something that pertains to amending the constitution. Either we are very serious...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...about those proposals, or we are going to look at them as any piece of legislation. Sometimes a piece of legislation which may be voted on to accommodate the introducer or those who support it. For my part, amending the constitution is so serious. We have to be careful in not overburdening the public because we understand human nature and we understand how people feel when they go into the voting booth and are confronted with a long list of items to vote on. I am not willing that this be one of those. So I hope you will vote against advancing.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. This is one of those issues, I think, that has been pretty well demonstrated that, certainly, it's not, as Senator Cudaback said, all that earth-shaking, but I think that Senator Robinson, as far as I'm concerned, hit the nail on the head when he talks about the fact that, at this point in the discussion, to bring these forward...and by the way, I'm going to support this...bring these forward now and then after we see all those constitutional amendments that are...constitutional revision issues that come before us, then I think it's going to be time for us to decide. If we need to shorten the list, that's the time to do it. But I think right now, we ought to at least let these be brought before us and then do our sorting down when we get to the final on these particular issues. And so, for that reason, I'm going to support it. I'm not going to put myself in a position to say that I'll support it when it gets to Final Reading simply because maybe there will be, as Ernie has indicated...or Senator Chambers has indicated, there may be so