

January 17, 1973

SPEAKER: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the legislature, adequate preparation is very essential when you're going to undertake a very important operation and I can't think of any thing more important than the passing of laws that govern the people's lives. And we all acknowledge that with the number of bills that come through, the type of legislation we ourselves might want to draft and introduce, we don't have the time to adequately think through a lot of the issues. We can't research it, analysis and do the personal reflection required, so if we could get research assistances I'm certainly for it and with all due respect to the lobbyist, some people think I hate lobbyist, I don't hate lobbyist, I don't hate anything, I don't hate anybody which is not worthy of hatred, and thus far I don't think lobbyist are worthy of hatred, but here is what I say to give a little example, if you got a guy in town named Jesse James, and he is robbing banks, and you want to devise a plan for stopping bank robbing, you don't go to Jesse James who has an interest in keeping the status quo as it is, you go to somebody interested in stopping bank robbing. We know that a lobbyist is not concerned about giving the other side of the question. He has a personal interest in pushing a particular type of legislation and he is not even infallible on the piece of legislation he'll push because there have been interests to the bills being introduced then when they come before the committee for a hearing, the introducer, the Senator who has persuaded to introduce the bill is brought new information at the last moment and he is made to look like a donkey. There have been times when men have stood up on the floor and they have been questioned by other Senators about the meaning of a bill, and the men will have to say, well so and so lobbyist gave me this bill and I really don't have the answer to this question, I really don't understand what the bill is about. So I think the day is coming with the new blood being infused by the new Senators young, and old, we are at a point where I think we can turn a corner and give the legislature some of what it needs. I'm aware of the fact dignity is becoming over used and in some instances, mis used, but a lot of times people will respect you based on the amount of respect you show for yourself, and if we are going to scrimp and be tight fisted, skin flinted, and stingy in supplying our own needs, then the legislature will continue to not be seriously taken by the public, so when the time comes when we can adequately research what we are going to do, present a highly polished qualitative product, then I think we will get some respect from the public and they will take us seriously. What I would like to hear if somebody is opposed to this kind of assistance could give me is the reason why their opposed to our being informed, and I have a little story I want to tell you then I'm going to sit down. There was an old guy who had to travel through the forrest and he was very afraid of the dark. There was a storm that came up, great peals of thunder, and bright flashes of lightening, the only time he could move was when the lightening flashed so that he could see his way. He was highly religious, so pretty soon the thunder terrified him so much that he raised his eyes to heaven and he said Lord if it's all the same to you, I'd like to have just a little more light and a little less noise. So I think the legislature will be able to produce a little more light and a little less noise, if we get some competent research assistance.

SPEAKER: Senator Marvel, and then Senator Savage, and Senator Anderson.

SENATOR MARVEL: Well first of all I think we should encourage new members of the legislature who are energetic enough to be interested in figuring out a solution to a problem that's faced all of us for a number of years. Therefore, I support their request for additional staff. We have staff now that's fairly well assigned to positions and what I would like throw into the