

February 6, 1973

SENATOR STROMER: I don't think so Senator Nore, it is not proven to be that in the state of New Hampshire which does have this kind of legislation.

SENATOR NORE: Fine, thank you.

SPEAKER: Are there any, Senator Maresh do you have a question of Senator Stromer, we have two amendments coming up.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President and members of the legislature, how does this affect the third party, Senator Stromer?

SENATOR STROMER: If they qualify to have a ballot in Nebraska, it would be included for them too, all we are doing is changing the preferential primary part, not the parties.

SPEAKER: Senator Stull did you have another question? Senator Stull. Very good. We'll take up the Waldron amendment to LB 174 first.

CLERK: Mr. President the Waldron amendment was inserted in the legislative journal yesterday and it is found on page 332 of the legislative journal.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Waldron.

SENATOR WALDRON: Mr. President and members of the legislature. The amendment I have proposed here is quite simple, but it is quite far reaching. It would permit or require that the primary elections in the state of Nebraska, held in non-presidential years, these primary elections in these, every four years, in the non-presidential years, would be in September, the second Tuesday in September, rather than in May. I think that the people of Nebraska are tired of having the campaign last all the way from April clear into November and have to listen to the different political speeches and one thing all summer, every time you turn on your TV, there it is, but I recognize in the presidential election years, we have an all star primary which maybe has merit and maybe does not, but we have it and I don't think there is any reason to disrupt that, but I think in the non-presidential years, there is absolutely no reason why we should have a primary in May and then wait six months to have the general election. Many states have their primary election in September or October, and then they go into their general election of course, in November. So it is very simple but very far reaching, and I would I think it would be proper to do in this state, I don't think it would disrupt the way presently, things are presently held, and it would concentrate the period that a person would be, you know on TV giving his political speeches into about a three month period, which I think the people of this state would welcome.

SPEAKER: Is there any further discussion of the Waldron amendment? Senator Stromer.

SENATOR STROMER: Mr. President, fellow members, I don't oppose the idea we have in the amendment, as a matter of fact I think it is good, it is something I have also thought about, but rather than tying it to this particular bill, I would like to see it maybe bring it in the form of a separate bill so we could thoroughly discuss the pros and cons of this idea, because I do think that what Senator Waldron says is true, I think that the people do become very weary of the political talk when we start way early in January or February preparing for a primary in May, and then move into general election in November, so if possible I was wondering if Senator Waldron would agree to introduce this as a separate bill, rather than including it as a part of this particular legislation?

SPEAKER: Senator Waldron do you care to respond?