

February 7, 1973

SENATOR NORE: Why do we see these signs in some of our bars and some of our places of business, "We Reserve The Right to Refuse Service," what are the problems?

SENATOR MARSH: As I understand it, sir, this is if a person becomes loud and obnoxious, is irritating other persons who are making use of the facilities, this isn't because of sex, or race or national origin. These would be the things that would be protected under this bill.

SENATOR NORE: What if this particular person that you described interpreted differently, that he was of a certain nationality or a certain color, he interprets it, he didn't think his habits were obnoxious so he goes to this board because he was discriminated against.

SENATOR MARSH: This is exactly why there is more than one person on the commission, sir, so that they can listen to his side of the story and hear another side of the story before any decision is made, to talk to the owner of the facilities. Sometimes, as I am sure you are aware, a person's reputation will precede them into any office in which they happen to enter. If a person is a troublemaker, this reputation also would precede them.

SENATOR NORE: Let's say there is about 100 of these people who make a practice of harassing your place and doing this and you are in court most of the time, wouldn't you be?

SENATOR MARSH: I would assume that the second time you tapped them, someone would know, particularly if it was under this act.

SPEAKER: Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, of the body. These kind of acts just scare the daylights out of me. I had a man come in my store, was an Indian. This is an American Indian movement, drunk, trying to beg money, very abusive and I threw him out bodily and the minute I did he says, you're discriminating against me. Now the only way I could have possibly protected myself was to call the police at the time which I really don't like to do against anyone but I had to do that to protect myself. It looks to me like what you're seeing here is a bill brought up by the head of a department or commission to exonerate himself from a lot of things, to exhilarate his powers in the first place, and I don't think that you're seeing one-half of the bill here. It says here that he can obtain upon request and to utilize all the services of all government departments and agencies. He can formulate policies to effectuate the purposes of this act. He can adopt rules and regulations and I am completely against that. I think that we all should be protected, not harassed. Thank you.

SPEAKER: Senator Proud.

SENATOR PROUD: I have a question for Senator Marsh. Senator Marsh, under your bill, can the person who desires to file a complaint, can he or she file it with the County Attorney?

SENATOR MARSH: Can he or she?

SENATOR PROUD: Yes.

SENATOR MARSH: It is my understanding is no, yes under, no under this bill.

SENATOR PROUD: Well, now, are you sure about that?

SENATOR MARSH: I understand the person, are you talking about the person who has been--

SENATOR PROUD: The complaining person. Can he file his complaint