

March 6, 1973

(Start of Belt #4)

would the Governor let this bill go through without his signature. If he'd just stay out of the picture, you know he has the right to let a bill go through and become law without his signature. Has he said, in essence, that he will not just let it go through without his signature. The reason I ask is that this is going to be on the ballot in the May primary in Omaha anyhow and what I'm wondering is will he just let it go. Let it go through without his signature.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Carpenter was there so he is going...he would like to deal with this.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Oh, OK.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: It is my understanding from what I listened to he will not let the bill become law without his signature, and I don't blame him. I wouldn't either. And unless these amendments, I'm sure he will veto the bill because he's in an untenable position. Of course he said what Senator Barnett said, but based upon the assumption that whatever bill is before him, of course, it has to be in its legal form to do what the bill intends to do. No one, even any member of this body, will make a blank statement he will support a bill irrespective of its content. Neither can you expect him to do it, but I would say this, insofar as I'm concerned based upon what I listened yesterday at about 4:30, unless we adopt these amendments he is going to veto the bill. He's in that position. He's not going to let it become law without his signature.

SPEAKER: Any further discussion of the motion. The question is shall the Governor then be asked to return LB 12. All those in favor...Senator, excuse me. Senator Carpenter, do you wish to be heard again?

SENATOR CARPENTER: Not on this. It's the same. I want to answer a question about the Executive Board of which I happen to be its chairman. This Board has acted in a manner which should be...I don't know what the right word is...admirable, that's the first thing I can think of which is not the proper word. We have delegated to Mr. Gerdes blanket authority to hire the men and the women necessary to give us a staff irrespective of their cost if they are qualified. That has never been done before. You can't create a specialist overnight. You can't create a man even though he has some background and make him a member of this staff and expect him to understand until he's got some experience. This Executive Council is doing everything it can be done way beyond the call of duty in order to give this body everything it wants to. Now, you people have to understand this. Half the time the man that drafts the bills don't know what you want, and neither do you. So, he has to handle these things in a manner that to the best of his knowledge he gives you the bill, and, after all, you have some responsibility to read the bill and if it is wrong or attempt to understand it or to check with other people to understand that it isn't right or it is wrong. This is a two way street, but, insofar as the council is concerned, we are going to have a meeting today at 1:00 in which we, apparently, consider anyway the retaining of additional members of the staff. A year around staff, that they, when we are out of here and we're adjourned sine die, they will go into the University, the ETV, every department and stay there for a month or six months or a year and find out what they are doing, and then come back and tell us, and then if they do, I hope we will take their advice.