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March 20, 1973

(Start of Belt #5)

with 3 pages of way to not have it. The other Amendment is not involved in any way here.

PRESIDENT: Question is, shall the DeCamp Amendments be adopted? All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed, vote no. You are voting on the DeCamp Amendments to LB 268. Once again, the Chair would inquire if you have all voted. The clerk will record.

CLERK: 5 ayes, 35 nays.

PRESIDENT: The DeCamp Amendments are lost. Next. What is the next Amendment on the desk please?

CLERK: Mr. President, there is now pending an Amendment offered by Senator Chambers, the Amendment is found on page 817 of the Legislative Journal.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

CHAMBERS: Mr. President, since this Amendment is substantially the same as Senator DeCamp's, and I see what happened to it, I would ask unanimous consent to withdraw it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers asking unanimous consent to withdraw his amendment. Are there objections to his withdrawal? Hearing, hearing no objections, there are withdrawn. Do we have other Amendments on the Bill?

CLERK: Mr. President, a Amendment offered by Senator DeCamp, a found on page 818, of the Legislative Journal.

PRESIDENT: Is the Amendment extensive, or can you read it please?

CLERK: Its quite long.

PRESIDENT: Very good. Unless somebody requests it, if you care to look at the Amendments, there found on page 818 of the Journal. Senator DeCamp, what is your pleasure on the Amendments?

SENATOR DE CAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, these Amendments I would like to clarify, because there is some misunderstanding on them. The one portion of the Amendment merely changes the method of execution from electrocution to chemical means. This would mean cyanide or an injection or something like that, so that an individual did not go through the rather silly ceremony of hauling him down, shaving their head, sending numerous charges of electricity through them and having dozens of witnesses, in other words, the pompous ceremony of an electrocution would be eliminated. The whole purpose of an electrocution or execution is to make sure the individual is dead and that can be done more simply than what we're doing it. The other portion, would have allowed an individual who was under sentence of death, to take a chemical means of executing himself, not suicide because if you want to call it suicide, then you have to call it what the States doing, first degree murder. So this would merely allow the individual 7 to 10 days before he is to be executed, to have a pill or some other thing that he could take very privately in his cell and self execute him. However, I would ask permission to withdraw the Amendments in view of the fact that the Death Penalty will never be imposed in Nebraska, by virtue of the Bill we're about to pass. It is not a Death Penalty Bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp, does the Chair understand your asking unanimous consent to withdraw the Amendment. Are there objections to withdraw the Amendment? Any objections?