

March 26, 1973

mean straight through till eight o'clock in the morning to try to get this bill right, so that it will survive a constitutional test as any bill that is passed by this Legislature is going to have to do. Now, I would like to emphasize that the committee is going to bring out this bill when we get it in its correct form and as restrictive a form as we can possibly make it and still have a real good chance of surviving the Supreme Court test that this bill will probably get once it gets introduced and passed by this Legislature. The Health and Welfare Committee is not going to fall down on this particular job. This is one thing we have uppermost in our mind that we are going to get the job done. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The chair next recognizes Senator Frank Lewis and I would observe that this is the second time for you to speak on the issue, Senator Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: That's just about the number of times I'd like to speak, Mr. President. There are about two or three things that I would like to clarify for you. Number one, my friend on my left, I resent the insinuation that he has made that this a political way out for people on this Committee and I can only speak for myself, but on the tough issues, people haven't had to run and find me in the cloak room or in my office upstairs. I'm willing to face them and I am willing to face this issue and if I have anything to do with it, our Committee is going to bring a bill out on this floor and this is not a method to hide from my responsibility in that Committee. It is a method to coordinate the efforts of that Committee. The second issue at hand is the public hearing and there are those that are long and avid supporters of the public hearing and I ask those long and avid supporters of the public hearing, did they read the testimony and I tell them that two-thirds of the testimony at that hearing was not geared to the specifics of that bill but was geared to what should happen with the Supreme Court decision. If I had to typify that public hearing, I'd say the public hearing was more on this Resolution than it was on 286. We've heard it. We heard it for four hours. We heard all sides. Now if you want to have a public hearing just to stress that this Legislature go through the mechanics, fine. We'll have a mechanical public hearing for you again and hear the same testimony, but I would urge those that are talking in generalities about a public hearing to go back and read what was said at that public hearing, if you have that kind of interest in it. Now either we have to get down to where we are playing a mechanical process or trying to get the job done. We've done mental gymnastics in here with procedures until I'm fed up to here with it. Now, we've got a job to do and this is part of the job. Let's move it on. Let's suspend

(End of Belt #3)