

March 26, 1973

(Start of Belt #5)

that they would state that if they were asked. I have been very serious in proposing that we do what is right in this body of government and what is right for the state of Nebraska and I felt under the wisdom of the Reference Committee and the people that we talked to, this was the route to bring it. Now if you so desire that we spend four more hours on this subject, I think our speaker, Senator Proud, made the remark that he thought we shouldn't rush through it. The ERA was most important. We spent almost the same amount of time in the hearing. When the ERA problem was brought up, I think we suspended the Rules and acted on it, maybe in haste, the day we acted on it, but we did do it in the manner of suspension of the Rules so that we wouldn't have a huge crowd here, probably, to observe that particular vote. If we would have set that ERA voting on a special day, we would have had huge crowds and we all agreed on that, but that wouldn't solve the problem. What we want to do is solve the problem, as I see it. I am not going to dwell any longer. I could answer many of the statements that have been made here. If this body felt that we should have a hearing, the very same subjects, the very same people would arrive and go through the same procedure and I am sure this is true, but I don't believe we would accomplish any more and we have files and files full and you have four hours of testimony that any of you would care to look, read, and really decipher as we have in our Committee, I would ask you to do that. So, at this time, I would ask and I apologize again for the time taken up. Maybe it is that important and I feel it is but I thought when the Resolution came, you'd all be pretty much aware of what it was because I asked to have it delayed from last Thursday till today so that you could study it. I would ask, now, for the suspension of Rules to introduce this Resolution.

PRESIDENT: The question is shall the Rules be suspended and the Resolution #23 be considered. All those in favor vote aye. All those opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Once again, have you all voted? The clerk will record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 17 nays, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion to suspend the Rules and take up LR 23 failed. Are there other motions on the desk? Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: Now, where does that leave us? Just on General File, is that it?

PRESIDENT: No, sir. Just page 906 of the Journal. The chair recognizes Senator Proud.

SENATOR PROUD: I move that the Resolution be referred for public hearing and that doesn't...as I understand it, that will be for the Executive Board to refer to Committee, that doesn't necessarily mean it goes to the Health Committee.

PRESIDENT: Motion before us is to refer LB, excuse me, Legislative Resolution #23 to a committee. Senator Whitney had indicated a desire to speak, then Senator Barnett.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Mr. President, how can we refer it to a committee when it is not before us. It seems to me that it is a dead issue until we bring it up again.

PRESIDENT: Senator Whitney, we are going to refer your question to Senator Duis and I will admit that in the area of procedure in the Rules that the chair is not as knowledgeable as I probably should be as to the intent of the changes which recently came about, so the chair would defer to Senator Duis. Senator Duis, do you have some input.