

April 10, 1973

just changes the funding, don't you understand that part. It doesn't change the wording of the bill. It just allows funding for this.

SENATOR STAHMER: What I understand is, you are asking us from Omaha, and I would be happy to do so and I support your amendment, you are asking us for the money but you still don't want the bill.

SENATOR MARESH: Well, I think if we are going to tell these towns that they shall, and I think you have the vote the way it looks to me, so if we are going to tell these towns you shall have fluoridation, you should also provide funds.

SENATOR STAHMER: I think that is wonderful, but you still don't want to support it. Is that correct?

SENATOR MARESH: Not the mandatory. If you would let the town board to decide, then probably I could support it.

SENATOR STAHMER: Would you accept an amendment to your amendment that would make the funding permissive on the part of those counties that want to help support it, rather than to make it mandatory.

SENATOR MARESH: I didn't understand your amendment.

SENATOR STAHMER: Well, I would say that rather than make it mandatory, if you are against mandatory legislation, why don't we allow whatever counties want to help support this to offer their funds, and if they don't want to help support it, they wouldn't have to.

SENATOR MARESH: I don't understand your theory of which counties support the bill. We don't vote this by counties. We are doing it by districts.

SENATOR STAHMER: Well, we could do it that way. No, I am a little at lost at your theory on offering the amendment when you don't support the bill.

SENATOR MARESH: Well, I support the amendment but not the bill.

SENATOR STAHMER: Crazy.

PRESIDENT: The chair recognizes Senator Johnson, then Chambers, Cavanaugh, Savage, Dickinson. Senator Johnson, are you passing? Very good. Move on then to Senator Chambers. We have before us the Maresh amendment to 449.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would indeed like to see this bill passed and if Senator Maresh is serious about his amendment and this would cause some people to vote for the bill who ordinarily wouldn't, I would support his amendment. I am not going to go in to the inconsistencies of the Legislature because Senator Carpenter did that very well in the newspapers the other day, although, my good friend, Senator Proud, who is very knowledgeable took issue with it, but I would like to deal with some of the comments that have been made thus far on the bill. First of all, it is a very serious issue. My friend, Senator Proud, who is the speaker, has one of the drollest, driest, senses of humor of anybody that I have seen in the Legislature. He is a very witty individual and sometimes he is disarming because, although he sounds like what people characterize as a hayseed, his wit is very sharp and edged and if you are not careful, he will cut you before you realize it and by the time you realize you have been cut, you have lost too much blood to strike back. But when you know the nature of your opponent,