

April 10, 1973

SENATOR SNYDER: Well, I only said that I think for every body to be doubly aware that what we're saying is, we're taking off the lid...

SENATOR CARPENTER: That's right.

SENATOR SNYDER: ...and we're going to have to watch each step that we authorize to the point now we do have an obligation to retain so much in the treasury a certain percentage of our budget, etc. But we're taking the lid off with the understanding that we are going to save construction costs, we are going to save architectural fees, etc. that keep going up. So I do support it, I'll support it but again as you stated in your opening statement we're going to have to all be aware of what we are doing here.

SENATOR CARPENTER: And I'm sure in this case they will be and it takes 25 members to take the lid off if the Governor vetoes, it takes 30 so we've got a double valve safety, probably.

PRESIDENT: Chair next recognizes Senator Stahmer, then Kremer, then Warner. We still have before us LB 547.

SENATOR STAHMER: Mr. President, members of the body, number 1, I'm not speaking in opposition of the bill. In fact, I'm supporting the theory of what Senator Carpenter's speaking of and I think as far as lids, the Constitutional Amendment that was passed was the removal of the lid and what Senator Carpenter just closed by saying that the check and balance now is the 25 and 30 votes depending on whether there is or isn't a veto. But on reading through the bill I don't really see that it spells out what Senator Carpenter's trying to accomplish here and especially as it would pertain to line 8, I would think perhaps there would need to be some insertion there suggesting the fact that the limit of appropriation could be spelled out to cover some percentage of monies or a given number of dollars for a period of two, three, four or five years. I'm not sure of the exact wording you would want here but I don't really see where it would specifically address itself to the question he's raising now. Perhaps I'm not reading this bill correctly. I don't see that it's really telling in the bill that we don't have to appropriate all the money at once or set aside that much money when they set the taxes in the fall, so to speak, and I think perhaps there needs to be an additional line. Either that or I'm not reading the bill right, you know, you might straighten me out on that subject, Senator Carpenter.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter, do you care to respond?

SENATOR CARPENTER: The language is a little bit difficult but if you read it for example, it says but the building for which the appropriation was made. Well, that means you would limit the appropriation to two years or as now one year. Without any appropriation, of course, you couldn't proceed until all the money was there. Now I would be the first one to believe that the language might be made more clear and obviously you realize that this was done at my request to accomplish the purpose that we, I have in mind. I would suggest if that's your only objection you take it to the bill drafter and Attorney General and see if he can do it in clearer language because that's the only intent I have.

SENATOR STAHMER: Well, I support your intent and I support the bill but I think perhaps, maybe I'm, if I could contact the bill drafter, I'm not trying to delay this or hold it up or divert it in any fashion. I'm supporting it, but I