

April 12, 1973

sessions, the committee meetings at least that I've been at have been short rushed affairs where everybody was always in a hurry to get back to the floor and we have not had thorough discussions as we did earlier in the session. I think we could have a very thorough discussion here on the floor and this bill of Senator Savage's deserves that.

(End of Belt #16)

(Begin Belt #17)

We, the committee hearing is apt to be perfunctory and short and is not going to do anything other than delay the entire process. I think we ought to go on and bring this to the floor and let everybody say what they have to say and then vote it up or down.

SPEAKER: Senator Whitney. Senator Snyder. Senator Kelly. Excuse me, were you requesting the floor, Senator Snyder? Well, we'll take Senator Snyder first, then you, Senator Kelly.

SENATOR SNYDER: Well, it's a noncontroversial day--we'll all be here for a while. Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I had only hoped to open this up in order to make a point but now I'm amazed that we got so much discussion going. I accept most of it, however, but I would say this--it's a point that I made when I first stood up here. This bill is not the same bill which was signed into law by the Governor just this week. Now what I'm trying to point out is if the Governor had objections to the bill that he signed and wanted corrections, the proper procedure, to my way of thinking, would have been to have sent the bill back to the Legislature with his objections stated. But he didn't, he signed the bill, Senator Savage compromised and promised to introduce another bill. But that's just what it is--another bill and that bill should have a public hearing. Now I would point back to LB 12, Senator Chamber's implement City Council bill. The Governor sent that bill back with his objections. To be consistent then maybe he should have signed that bill. All I'm asking for is consistency here. I'm saying that the opportunity was there, the fact that the amendments were not brought before that committee has nothing to do with it. There was plenty of time from the time that bill came out of committee, was passed by this body and then signed by the Legislature. Now I'm not trying to be disrespectful to the office of Governor, not at all, but again I don't think anybody can deny that I've tried to be somewhat consistent on these points. The election bills referred to heard by the Government Committee at noon, I sent them back last week with an objection. I came back from having been absent, they hadn't had a public hearing and again I point out to this body that when 25 people decide that people shouldn't be heard, we get into trouble and I'm saying you'll get into trouble on this bill that is being introduced here today because I'm not sure that I can support it and I think I'm somewhat on good ground in thinking there may be some professional journalists who would come in here and oppose this bill at a public hearing. So if they aren't going to support it, what good is that bill? Again I say, do not put this new bill on General File without a public hearing.

SPEAKER: Senator Kelly

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, members of the body, I've been a consistent opposer of suspension of the rules but if I've ever seen a time justified to suspend the rules, this certainly would be it. There has been a public hearing, there was even