

May 10, 1973

SENATOR KENNEDY: I can answer to the extent that we constructively voted and Senator Richard Lewis was the only one that didn't vote for it and his reasoning is because of the amendment today. Is that some--

SENATOR CARPENTER: The point I'm trying to make, that these two, the bill and this resolution was a compromise as I understood it, and everybody was reasonably satisfied the day we passed them both. Now what I want to know, the people who were responsible in the first place, I presume the Catholic Church, do they embrace your change? Let's be specific.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Are you asking me the--

SENATOR CARPENTER: Anybody.

SENATOR KENNEDY: I, I would say that the committee and the committee's the one that sponsored the resolution all voted for it but Senator Richard Lewis and his reasoning is because of the amendment, is what he told me, and that's where the resolution came from, the committee. The committee sponsored it. I don't, I can't answer any further than the committee because they were the sponsors.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well does the committee in favor of the change?

SENATOR KENNEDY: I think again the amendment was not offered to the committee until this time as I understand it, we'll soon find out if we go ahead and vote on it.

SENATOR CARPENTER: I want to find out before I vote on it. I--

SENATOR KENNEDY: Well--

SENATOR CARPENTER: --enough trouble just accidentally.

SENATOR KENNEDY: I think probably you have one vote that the resolution was passed by this committee. There were one vote against it, 6 votes for it. I think that record shows and other than that, I think we vote now and proceed, we'll probably find out in a hurry.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter, could I interject, please sir, that the only issue before the body at this time is the suspension of the rules which would allow this amendment to go on with only a majority vote rather than the 25 votes which ordinarily is required on select file. That really is the only issue and I'd like to dispatch that if I could. In other words, it's just the motion for the suspension of the rules. I realize it's difficult to separate the issue from that suspension, but I would like to, to center the debate if I could on that issue. Go ahead sir.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well, I'm opposed to this motion or any other motion to open this thing up again. We ought to let well enough alone.

PRESIDENT: Alright now, Senator Stahmer, do you want to be heard on the issue to suspend the rules? That's all we're visiting about here now, is suspending the rules. Senator Marsh, do you wish to be heard on the issue regarding the suspension of the rules? Go ahead, Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President, at the time this was discussed before, Senator Lewis was not here. He had permission to be absent and in courtesy to him I feel that it would be very appropriate action to suspend the rules right now.