

CLERK: Mr. President there is a request to bracket LB359. from Senator Warner.

SPEAKER: Senator Warner. Is there any objection to bracketing that bill? That is LB359. If there are no objections so ordered. LB458. Clerk will read.

CLERK: Read LB458, Senator Burbach's bill.

SPEAKER: Senator Burbach is not in the chamber, pass it over. Next bill is LB389.

CLERK: Read LB389.

SPEAKER: Senator Hasebroock, do you want to explain the bill?

SENATOR HASEBROOCK: Mr. President, members of the legislature, this bill was introduced on last year and it was carried over. It is a constitutional amendment and I think that it had been previously submitted some years ago and quite a number of constitutional amendments and I think that it got lost. I think that it is a very important constitutional amendment and since the Lt. Governor is now going to be running as a team with the Governor and I think that it is more important than ever that the Lt. Governor not preside over the Legislature. As an elective executive officer and he may sometimes can cast votes and ties and this would remove him as the presiding officer and would therefore establish more completely the doctrine of seperation of powers. Then the Legislature is elected upon a non-partisan basis therefore the presiding officer should not be an official elected on a partisan basis. By giving the Legislature the responsibility of choosing its own presiding officer in addition to the speaker it would insure that he would be subject to the rules and procedures of the body. Beginning in 1974 that is this year as a result of a constitutional amendment approved in 1970, the Governor and the Lt. Governor will run as a team and this will be even more closely tie the Lt. Governor to the partisan activities of the Executive Branch and make more illogical the continuing role as the presiding officer of a non-partisan legislature. Then after January 1, 1975 also as a result of a constitutional amendment adopted in 1970 the Lt. Governor will relieve the Governor of services on certain boards and commissions, at the discretion of the Governor will perform other duties assigned him by the Governor and will become a full time officer. Not only does this place him squarely within the functioning of the executive branch of the government but will hardly leave him time to preside over the legislature. I move that the LB389 be advanced, to E & R initial.

SPEAKER: Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Just very briefly Mr. President. This is political speech number one. I knew that I would be accused of that so I thought that I would put that out first. I certainly rise to support Senator Hasebroock, his logic of te new responsibilities and the conflicts that would exist is certainly very true and I think that this is a bill that ought to go to the people very rapidly with some degree of hope I hope that they pass this so that we can have some clear cut lines between executive and legislative authority.

SPEAKER: Now Senator Hasebroock, whose amendments are these?

CLERK: Committee amendments.