

January 21, 1974

SPEAKER: Is there any discussion? All those in favor of advancing the bill as amended say aye, opposed no. The bill is advanced. I believe that concludes Select Select File.

CLERK: Mr. President, we have pending a motion by Senator Chambers to reconsider our action in not overriding the veto of LB 217.

SPEAKER: Before we take that up, I have an announcement. We have visiting us 30 Girl Scouts, Cadet Troups 8 and 28 from Logan Fontenelle Jr. High School. I believe that Senator Frank Lewis's daughter is in this group. Senator Lewis, are they in the north balcony? Would you Scouts and your sponsors rise and be recognized. And Trudy would you hold up your hand? Where are you? Stand up. She's there with Senator Lewis. Thank you. Now, Mr. Clerk, what did you say you had.

CLERK: We have a motion pending by Senator Chambers. He has indicated his interest in taking the matter up. The motion is found on page 316 of the Legislative Journal. (read)

SPEAKER: Senator Chambers, this is a motion to reconsider our action on LB 217.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, and members of the Legislature. LB 217 is a bill requiring the election of school board members in Omaha by districts. When the Governor vetoed this bill he stated in his message that he didn't like the idea of this being forced on the citizens of Omaha when it was not being applied in any other schools, districts or cities in the state. Yet a bill which he passed this session, you will find that LB 435 deals with the caucus proceedings in class 3 school districts which does not apply to any other class school in the state. And the Governor did not veto it, he signed it. He vetoed the bill that I introduced and had passed by the Legislature because of personal and political consideration. You can make me and the Governor happy. He had to pick up some votes in Omaha by vetoing this bill, even though the last time he vetoed it the reasons were different from the ones he gave this time. The Governor has his veto. He has picked up his votes in the politics he can gain from, now we can deal with the lives and the welfare of the children who will be affected by this bill. You can override the Governor's veto and when to take the campaign trip he can tell them that he paid his debt. He vetoed the bill. But then the Legislature can continue to look themselves and me in the eye by acknowledging that the position taken on General File had been confirmed and followed through all the way. I want to call to your attention the fact that the majority of the Omaha Senators voted for this bill. 7 out of 12. In the past when I've had bills of this nature before the Legislature. Certain members asked me what was the feeling of the Omaha delegation. At the time the split was the other way. A majority would be opposed. So that gave the excuse for not supporting the bill. Now that has been taken away a majority supported it and I'm asking you to do the same. There are some of you who would be opposed to a bill introduced by Senator Stahmer to do away District 66, which is surrounded by the Omaha district on 3 sides, but is not a part of it. In District 66, they say they do not want to be a part of the Omaha School District because it is too large. That they would have no influence