

January 29, 1974

by the Government and Military Affairs Committee. I ask that you give 30 votes to it so that it might be introduced this morning.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Cavanaugh then Senator Snyder.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I don't very often oppose introduction of a bill, but I feel that I will have to make an exception in this case, in that I can see no benefit at all to this bill. In fact, it is completely contrary to my philosophy of government in this state and that I feel that partisan requirement for the Attorney General is an invaluable one, and I think that in light of recent politics, even more compelling than perhaps in the past. I think that to say that to make the office non-partisan would raise its quality is certainly a misconception that couldn't be demonstrated. The purpose of political parties is to espouse varying philosophies of government and law and the administration of peoples affairs and then to allow the people from the various parties to personify those varying philosophies. I think that it is invaluable to have that connection to a political party in the office of the Attorney General because of the manner in which the individual aspiring to that office presents his conception of what the office is and how the laws of this state should be administered is the most vital ingredient in the office. I think that he needs, and the people need to be able to identify that man with the philosophy of the party that he seeks to represent. So I will have to oppose the introduction of this bill.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Snyder then Fellman, Stahmer, Duis, Carpenter.

SENATOR SNYDER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Very briefly I would concur most whole heartedly with many of the major statements that Senator Cavanaugh just made. I pushed my button because I was not sure that anyone else was going to stand up, but I am gratified to see that there are some others that want to talk on this subject. I think that I would make the bigger thrust of my statement here this morning to the point, that when I came down here I like Senator Chambers thought that I was an independent although registered with the party. But I have since determined after serving here that I think that we must further the two party system. As Senator Cavanaugh stated, it represents the

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