

January 30, 1974

SENATOR MARVEL: O.K., and that would be set for the 12th.

PRESIDENT: Correct.

SENATOR MARVEL: O.K.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion of the motion. Senator Syas do you want to be heard on the motion? All right. All those in favor of setting then LB..Well let's see if we can do it by unanimous consent. Are there any objections to setting 997 for February the 12th? Are there any objections to setting LB 997, the budget bill for February 12th. General File debate. Any objections? Any objections? Hearing none. So ordered then the bill will be set for that particular date.

CLERK: Motion on the desk, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Read the motion.

CLERK: I move to suspend the rules for the introduction of the attached bill. (Signed) Senator Chambers. (read)

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers for his motion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature. This is an exact duplicate of a bill of which members of the Government Committee had signed and agreed to introduce as a committee bill. Due to a technical error, the bill had to be redrafted. Instead of having the entire committee demeaned along with me as happened yesterday, I decided not to ask them to sign this bill even though they had signed it before. I'm introducing it strictly on my own. So in order to do that I have to ask for a suspension of the rules which requires 30 votes. The same way it would if the committee were introducing the bill. But there is a technical difference between the committee bill and introducing it as an individual. As an individual I think it narrows the issue. You are not voting against the government committee. That is a very good committee. I'm glad to be the Chairman of it. We work very well. Because of these considerations, I'm not going to draw them into any difficult situation that might exist because of me and the way certain members of the Legislature feel toward me. Now for the bill itself. I think it has merit because by not allowing people registered independent to participate in the primaries, about twenty two thousand or more people who are qualified and registered as independents to vote are not allowed to participate in the primary elections of this state. Since the primaries are an intricate part of the procedure used to select the people who ultimately hold the offices in this state, every person qualified to vote, ought to be allowed to vote. The Government of the state or the country cannot be confused with the political party that happens to hold office at that particular time. So what I want to see happen in Nebraska is the provision where everybody who is a registered and qualified voter is allowed to vote at the level which selections are made of the individuals who ultimately become the office holders. I'm asking that the rules be suspended so that I can introduce this bill. So that I can introduce this bill.

PRESIDENT: The chair next recognizes Senator Stahmer.