

March 12, 1974

PRESIDENT: All right, it's been adopted. Senator DeCamp do you want to debate the bill at this point.

SENATOR DEKAMP: Just very briefly. Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I had originally intended to put a kill motion on this bill. I am going to vote to advance it. I'm going to vote to get it to General File, but I want to make it clear why, because I think this bill could be a good lesson for all of us. It probably at least in my opinion, is one of the most dangerous bills that comes down the pipe because it would turn over to the Governor or to an official, an elected official, unheard of, of almost dictatorial powers. And there is a tendency in state government today, anytime there is any type of crises or any type of problem to immediately want to give power all the way, either to some federal official or some one individual who is going to solve all the problems. And so the reason I'm moving to advance the bill is for the purpose of showing just how dangerous it can be when we have a piece of legislation like this to make the people aware that hopefully the bill will be examined and will never go ahead with the bill, I'm sure. But maybe if it's left alive awhile, this problem that we seem to always to be facing anymore, which is surrendering our powers to one official, or to some federal official will be more clearly understood by the people. I think it was George Washington, quoting someone who once said, that you should never give any power to any elected official that you wouldn't be afraid to give to your absolute worst enemy. And I don't think anyone in this room would want to give these dictatorial powers to their worst enemy. If there really is a fuel crisis and if it does heighten, I think we will solve it. Let's go ahead, let's put the bill on final reading like Senator Carpenter said, and maybe get some public examination of just how a piece of legislation it is, when you start surrendering all our powers and responsibilities in this body to one other man. It's a dangerous precedence.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion of the bill. Senator Carpenter I will accept your motion then, to advance the bill.

SENATOR CARPENTER: I'm glad we revived George Washington, at least. And I would say that this bill came out of a couple of the hearings that we had at the time we heard it, this country was apparently was in greater distress than what it is in today. Nobody wants to give anybody these powers unless on the final day, we adjourn side die, 25 of us want to do that. And that is not the intent of it. Now I say move it over to Final Reading. Bracket it there and before you leave if anybody wants to consider the bill and pass it, that's the time to object to, and that's the time to exhume George Washington, and let it speak for itself.

PRESIDENT: The question is, shall LB685 be advanced from General File to E & R Initial. All those in favor of advancement of the bill vote aye, all those opposed vote no. The motion is to advance LB685 from General File to E & R Initial. The motion is to advance LB685 from General File to E & R Initial. This could take a long time, one vote at a time. Have you all voted? The motion is to advance the bill. Senator Carpenter. I have no objection, let the Clerk announce the vote.

SENATOR CARPENTER: I have no objection, let the Clerk announce the vote.