

February 20, 1979

LB 316

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 316 was a bill introduced by Senator John DeCamp, Senator Don Dworak and Senator Bernice Labeledz. (Read title.) The bill was first read on January 16 of this year. It was referred to the Judiciary Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File by the Judiciary Committee. There are no committee amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, this bill, LB 316, was heard two or three weeks ago and following its hearing we had many, many amendments which could have been discussed and added to the bill or not added to the bill as the committee would seem necessary and prudent. However, in looking at the amendments we decided to put the bill out without amendments because we understood that there were several amendments which would not be unconstitutional or perhaps would not be. We put the bill out as it was without amendments knowing that perhaps there would be a white copy or a full rewrite of the bill and several of the members of this Legislature, several of the legal counsels of various committee worked on this very diligently to work out something that they felt would be legally constitutional and it would possibly pass this house. One thing I would like to say and that is, let's try to keep it as unemotional as possible this year so that we can either pass the bill or amend it as we see fit but do a good job on it and try not to get too emotional so that we do not spend so much of the Legislature's time as we did last year. In a bill of this nature which is naturally very controversial some of us feel very much one way on the bill. Some of us feel the other way very much so and it must be a bill of compromise or neither side will get anything and we will not have anything on the books that will please any of us. So I urge you to keep our cool as much as possible and try to work this out as best possible. Senator John DeCamp has worked hard and diligently on this with many others and he will attempt to explain it to you as best possible together with the amendments that they have now attached to the bill. Senator DeCamp.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the final form of the amendments is now being copied and I would hope you would have it within five to ten minutes. Prior to receiving that let me tell you what has occurred on this subject from, I guess, the time it all started up until 9:18 this morning. The issue really began in 1973