

March 20, 1979

LB 59, 159

SPEAKER MARVEL: All provisions of law having been complied with, the question is, shall the bill pass. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? The Clerk will record the vote.

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read record vote found on page 1010 of the Legislative Journal.) The vote is 42 ayes, 0 nays, 5 excused and not voting and 2 present and not voting, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The bill is declared passed. We are ready to go to item #7, Select File. Mr. Clerk, LB 59.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 59 was reported to Select File with amendments. The amendments were adopted by the body yesterday. We left the bill with an amendment by Senator Chambers pending and that amendment, Mr. President, is on page 780 of the Legislative Journal.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, we are dealing with the Chambers amendment to LB 59 as indicated on page 780 of the Journal. The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, a good number of people had already left for lunch yesterday at the time this proposed amendment was brought before the body so I will briefly state what it is and what it does. It is an amendment to LB 59 and if you look in the Journal you will see that it indicates that certain subject matters related to handicaps and other illness that may befall youngsters should be dealt with in the public schools. Now I have an article which I am going to locate and hand around to you so I won't take much to make my presentation because I think there were other lights on yesterday when the debate terminated because the lunch hour came and we recessed, but what I would like to call to your attention is the fact that the children with handicaps are viewed as sources of apprehension and sometimes become the butt of ridicule and largely this is because people do not understand these handicaps or these ailments. What is not understood is often a cause or a basis of fear and fear is often cloaked or masked by an attempt to make a joke or to deal in a way with the problem that tries to hide rather than face it. Last night on television there was a program called The White Shadow. This is a program which deals with a white basketball coach at a black high school. One of the youngsters who was going to be put on the team was being what they called mainstreamed. He was autistic and it showed how the coach, the teachers and the other players had no