

March 26, 1979

LB 257

things, sales and political candidates and so forth. Basically the committee amendments change the intent of the bill to say that we would regulate, the Public Service Commission would regulate these automatic dialers. Now basically the situation is this. The committee decided to put these amendments on and they were unanimously placed on the bill which would regulate these automatic dialers because there are certain problems with certain types of machines and those problems are that many machines would not automatically disconnect, that they ran through whole pages of phone numbers, they could call every person in a nursing home and those kinds of things and we felt that by regulating them that we could stop these abuses as opposed to completely outlawing them. So that is what the committee amendments do and I would move the adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is on the adoption of the committee amendments. Are you ready to vote on the committee amendments? Senator Wesely, do you want to vote on them now? All those in favor of the adoption of the committee amendments as discussed vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on the committee amendments to LB 257 on General File. Have you all voted? Have you all voted on the adoption of the committee amendments to 257? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wesely, what do we do with the bill?

SENATOR WESELY: I would like to move to advance it to E & R initial but if I could take a minute to explain it I think there are some points that need to be raised in this issue. First off, I would like to say that by adopting those committee amendments you have now changed completely the thrust of the bill. Originally introduced it would for all practical purposes prohibit the use of electronic phone dialing and message equipment. As amended as we just passed the amendment, really all it does is regulate their use. So you are going from prohibition to regulation so it is watered down quite a bit but I think it is an important first step in what I consider to be a potentially serious problem in this state and I know it has been in other states. Basically this does not prohibit the use of these devices, just regulates as I said and I just talked to Senator Keyes and Senator