

March 28, 1979

LB 484

I was very active in politics for the last thirty years. It was very discouraging for me to be involved in politics the last thirty years, going to rallies, working actively at headquarters on different campaigns and my husband was not allowed to accompany me, to work with me in the headquarters, to be able to go to rallies with me. I had to do it all by myself. I wasn't allowed to have signs in my yard or anything because I was married to a policeman and the rules were there. He was not allowed to involve himself in politics. I think it is wrong and I rise to support LB 484.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Before I recognize Senator Newell to close, I recognize Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Members of the Legislature, Senator Labeledz, I can understand your frustration and I won't even deal with that because I think it was an expression of a personal situation and I can understand and sympathize with that. Nevertheless, I am still against the bill. Senator Johnson, my good friend, Senator Johnson, you know that the concept of free will can be looked at philosophically, ethically and in other respects and there is such a thing as the coercion of a person's will. A will of a human being can be coerced. When an officer, whether he be on a city force or a sheriff's department, it is surprising to me that I am the only one who apparently knows how law enforcement operates in the real world. Police officers are recognized by face, Senator Johnson, regardless of whether they wear a uniform. So if an officer whose job it is to patrol in the area would come into an establishment and say I am campaigning for so-and-so, not wearing a police officer's uniform or on company time, and I am soliciting donations. Well, now if your establishment is to be looked over by this man, the donation is going to be forthcoming. I have literature I would like you to hand out and I have signs I want posted here. Then the signs are going to be posted and the literature will be handed out regardless of how you feel. You know that there are lawyers who succumb to pressures which other attorneys will not, and as a result, there is a cheated clients fund that the Bar Association has set up because lawyers will abscond with money and do other things they should not do because they cannot withstand temptations and pressures though they have the same free will and the power to say no that other attorneys would have. I have an article that I am going to hand around which came out of this morning's paper where a lawyer telling a judge no consistently in behalf of a black man who was referred to in that court by his first name when other witnesses were referred to as Mr., that lawyer has to serve four days in jail for contempt. Every time the prosecutor would address a question to the black man it was