

March 29, 1979

LB 54

So, Senator Marsh, I reject your amendment and I certainly feel insulted by your comments and I hope that you would withdraw it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes, did you wish to wait for a close or did you wish to add right now? All right. Senator Cope. The Chair recognizes Senator Cope. All right, the Chair recognizes Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, a question of Senator Cullan if he would yield.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cullan, would you respond?

SENATOR CULLAN: Yes, I will.

SENATOR KOCH: Senator Cullan, could you very quickly give a breakdown of the commission now as envisioned by the intent of the committee amendments? Is the Secretary of State still on it?

SENATOR CULLAN: Yes, the Secretary of State is still on it.

SENATOR KOCH: Why? Can I ask you a question then, why did you choose to leave the Secretary of State?

SENATOR CULLAN: I personally did not choose to leave the Secretary of State there. The members of the existing commission felt that he was beneficial and therefore, he should be retained. I personally did not feel the Secretary of State should be involved and my original bill had him out but Senator Hoagland and others felt that he should be on. I do not feel strongly about that, Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you. I rise to support the amendments and I commend the committee. As you know we lost an outstanding individual last time because of some feelings about apportionment and how people are appointed to this very important commission. It appears that those problems have been solved and I am hopeful that this body would enact this law very quickly. In fact, I would request that we put the emergency clause on and I will so add that as another amendment because it is imperative I believe that a person who was denied a position because of an overabundance possibly of appointments in the east would now be allowed to be appointed by the Governor and I think the Governor has made that commitment, that that lady would be appointed, probably one of the most prominent and one of the most knowledgeable in terms of the commission and what its obligations are. Thank you.