

March 29, 1979

LB 465

great but it is a factor to be considered and I urge you to indefinitely postpone the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, in order of their appearance now, Senator George, do you wish to speak on the motion to indefinitely postpone?

SENATOR GEORGE: Thank you, Mr. President. I originally wanted to speak to the bill but I might as well speak to Senator Lamb's motion. I do support his motion. The bill is unnecessary, number one. I believe it was about two years ago that I had a bill that was passed into law which makes it a lot easier for people to register. They don't have to drive to the county seat any more. They don't have to go to the courthouse any more. Every city clerk or village clerk is deputized. People can just stay in their home town, go to the village clerk or city clerk and register to vote. So I don't see why this bill should be implemented. In larger cities as you can observe, in Omaha for instance during the campaign time the election commissioner opens additional offices, usually in shopping centers and therefore the convenience of registration is already available to anybody who wants to register. The unworkable part can be...maybe it is difficult to explain it but I would invite any one of you to go to a county courthouse on election day, maybe after midnight and watch these people work until sometimes, five, six, seven o'clock in the morning. All we have to do here is give them additional work to add to the confusion. It is not workable within that process and is not necessary because anybody who desires to register to vote can do so. I do support Senator Lamb's motion to indefinitely postpone LB 465.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Nichol, do you wish to speak to the motion to indefinitely postpone? Okay.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I too rise to support the kill motion. I think what this started out to be would be a bill to allow people to register and to vote at the same time and this thing has been up before. Now if this is what the intent of later would be then I would oppose that. I think when a person registers to vote they have thought about it somewhat. They want to vote. They should be allowed to vote if they meet the requirements as to age and where they inhabit the earth and so forth but to have this on this day doesn't seem logical. Why should a person want to vote at a place that is already busy, sometimes very, very busy, and the