

April 2, 1979

LB 345

SENATOR SIMON: Would it be alright if I switched my speaking over to Senator Newell, since it's his bill? As a matter of courtesy I would just as soon have him give...

SPEAKER MARVEL: Do you wish to relinquish your time to Senator Newell?

SENATOR SIMON: Well not my time, just that...okay, fine.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, the Chair recognizes Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President and members of the body, Senator DeCamp had talked to me earlier about this proposal, and at that time I thought that possibly it would be a way of resolving, or at least something worth exploring. I went to the County Commissioners and I had offered this sort of proposal actually long before the bill became... came up on consent file, and basically some individuals involved said that they would get back to me. They never did and the bill moved and advanced. So I called them again and asked them if they were any more disposed towards compromise and they said they would get back to me. Senator DeCamp, are you listening? I asked them if they were any more favorably disposed, and they said they'd get back to me. Well, basically what's happened is that they've gotten back to me, and the County Board, those people who feel strongly opposed to this bill, those two members on the County Board who were opposed to it, they feel very strongly that it ought not be compromised, Senator DeCamp. Now the difficulty we have in this situation is that, if they don't want to compromise, then maybe you and I are not doing them any favors by compromising this bill. I think it's the right thing to do, is to have district elections and I think this body, as it has in the past, should again make the decision. But to ask people who are unwilling to compromise, who basically said that they think they have the votes, and basically have been extremely uncooperative in this area, I think it's asking too much to...for me to go along with that kind of a compromise, Senator DeCamp. I wonder if you have some comments on that.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Okay, fair question. I specifically asked Jimmie Moylan, who represents the county officials there. On three separate occasions he specifically told me they will do everything they can to kill the bill if