

April 2, 1979

LB 345

amendments to LB 345. Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, for those who weren't in the room, the amendment would provide district nomination or election in the primary and at large election in the general election. I have suggested that this would be a way to accomplish a significant part of the desires of those who want district elections. Once a person is nominated by district I think it's reasonable to assume that that district... that district would be supporting him, helping to finance him, and so on and so forth. I might point out that this is the identical system to that which is used in Lancaster County right at this time. Is that not correct? Senator Fowler? Senator Beutler? That is correct, isn't it? So what you're doing then is you're making the Omaha area, Douglas County, correspond to the Lancaster County area and the system here. Now, I have suggested that this would probably guarantee about as much as you can guarantee things, passage of the bill. I have suggested that in my opinion, which is not necessarily correct or anything else, but in my opinion the bill will not pass in its original form, calling for pure district elections. You can say it's right. You can say it's wrong. You can say good, bad...I'm merely trying to lay out the facts as I see them. I offered the amendment which was brought to me by some of the people interested in it. Told them I'd put it up and explain the facts as I saw them. That's all I've done. Do whatever you want with the amendment. I think Senator Newell indicated that he accepted it. Is that right, Senator Newell? Senator Newell is shaking his head yes. I suspect that Senator Newell has also gone around and got a feel for where we are on it. Your rejection of the amendment because you're a purist, so to speak, doesn't mean you've won the bill then. I think that's where the handicap is, but do whatever you think is right.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the DeCamp amendment to LB 345. All those in favor vote aye. Opposed vote no. Have you all voted? There were eight. Are there still eight? Six excused. Have you all voted? One more time, have you all voted? A Call of the House has been requested. Clear the Board. The question is, shall the House go under Call? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record.

CLERK: 10 ayes, 0 nays to go under Call, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried. The House is under