

April 2, 1979

LB 345

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Kelly now moves to amend and those amendments are on Page 1219 of the Legislative Journal.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Whose amendments?

CLERK: Senator Kelly.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, you want to read the amendment? Oh...it's...okay. Senator Kelly, I recognize you to present your amendment.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I have received a lot of correspondence out of Douglas County, telephone calls, personal visits, regarding this issue of electing your County Board. It would appear to me that this is not really the place to decide it on the floor of the Legislature. I have two proposals around. The one that we have at this time before the body would flat out proceed with election in Douglas County of how they would elect their Board, either as it now exists or to change it to districts with the vote of the people. I move the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: We're now speaking to the Kelly amendment. Senator Labeledz and then Senator Chambers.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I agree and support Senator Kelly's amendment. The issue itself on putting the County Board by...electing County Board members on the ballot has never been done before. I, for one, support the amendment. I think the people in Omaha or Douglas County should have the opportunity at least once to vote as to what they want. Now I know that the County Board members right now can do it themselves. There are three for it and two against it, and they have the opportunity to put it on the ballot, but inasmuch as they keep saying one way and then the other changing from day to day, and if we are going to take the responsibility here by taking it either by district or putting it on the ballot, I support by district only if it's put on the ballot and let the people of Douglas County vote on it. Thank you.

SENATOR NICHOL PRESIDING

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Koch. Senator Chambers, did you want to speak on the Kelly amendment?