

April 3, 1979

LB 143

is going to do nothing, is going to do nothing but increase the burden of the ratepayers and you know, ladies and gentlemen, that well is not endless out there. That ratepayers well is not endless. I would like to ask the members of the Legislature a question. How many of you Senators, male and female, have had an inquiry from a constituent back home complaining because of this particular piece of legislation or because of the problem relative to what is included in LB 143. Would you raise your hand, those of you who have had a problem and who have had concerns from constituents? Not a single one and yet we are not only wasting time but ratepayers money and that is highly unfortunate, ladies and gentlemen. I am not up here to be argumentative. I am not up here to delay and play games with the bill. I have not had one single letter. I have not had one single phone call, Senator Simon, and you told me a year ago that the people in my district were the ones who needed this most. Hardly. This is not a District 7 piece of legislation, ladies and gentlemen. Let's get on with business. We certainly have more important things to do here, Senator Simon, and again for the record, it is not a District 7 piece of legislation, Senator Simon, as I think. It is not the amendment that I am concerned about, it is the bill. Ladies and gentlemen, again, I think Senator Dworak addressed himself rather well earlier in the debate and I would hope that we would not just do away with the amendment but do away with this particular piece of legislation.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, there was a writer named Jonathan Swift many years ago who wrote a tract called "A Modest Proposal" and it dealt with hunger among the poor in Ireland and it said since children are the ones who are hungry there is one way to solve two problems. Get rid of the children and take care of hunger. What parents ought to do is convert the children into food. Then it described the many ways that children could be prepared as delicacies for the rich and those who did not suffer from hunger and I think he talked about kabobs, deep fat frying, the equivalent of what we would have today, roasting, broasting, baking and all of a sudden the people who had never been hungry and were very unsympathetic towards those who were hungry thought this was a terrible thing for Jonathan Swift to do, but it was necessary for him to do this to point out the cruel, unfeeling insensitivity which was existing at that time. So a modest proposal in our present situation would