

April 3, 1979

LB 484

Attorneys are not going to...are not going to hassle with the sheriff's office. They have to work with them all the time. It's just not going to work. You just as well accept as Senator Newell says, politics for what it is. Politics is politics...let the public be the judge. There is going to be a certain amount of that monkey business going on, and I don't know what you're going to do about it, and I agree with Senator Chambers, I've been on the receiving end of some of it, and I don't like it, but I'll tell you one thing, the more you holler about it the more of it you get, and Senator Chambers has been able to take it and I have survived myself, but the point is this, that you are setting a separate class of activity for deputy sheriffs. I don't believe you can do it, and it isn't going to work if you do it, and I'm opposed to the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp. The question's been called for, do I see five hands? Shall the debate cease? All those in favor vote aye. Opposed vote no. Record.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried, debate has ceased. It's been so long I don't remember...who's...Senator Hoagland. The Chair recognizes Senator Hoagland for the Hoagland-Sieck amendment to LB 484. Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: I'll be brief, Mr. Speaker, in my closing. I believe that we have established a problem. I think we established that in November of last year there was a problem in Lancaster County that resulted in several highly experienced deputies leaving their professional jobs, and I think all of us have observed the same problem in our counties around the state...the problem of incumbent sheriffs putting pressure on their deputies to help them in their reelection campaigns. I think that's an abuse of the electoral process that ought to stop. Now I would remind my colleagues that the Hatch Act at the federal level which prohibits federal employees from participating in partisan races is far, far, far more restrictive than this particular amendment, and I would disagree with Senator Schmit when he says we're setting up a special separate class of citizenship for deputy sheriffs. Now we're not setting up a separate special class of citizenship, and the reason is because deputy sheriffs can participate in many, many more races under this amendment than they could if they were federal employees under the Hatch Act. Indeed they can participate in virtually every race