

April 11, 1979

LB 107, 224

SPEAKER MARVEL: Any further discussion? The motion is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor of advancing 224 to E & R for review vote aye, opposed no. Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried. The bill is advanced. Are we ready to take up LB 107? Senator Fowler.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 107 was introduced by Senator Steve Fowler of the 27th. (Read title to LB 107.) The bill was read on January 8. It was referred to the Judiciary Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. There are committee amendments pending by the Judiciary Committee, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Fowler. Are there committee amendments?

SENATOR FOWLER: I could speak to the committee amendments or...

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay.

SENATOR FOWLER: Okay. The bill deals with questions with regards to search warrants and specifically it was brought in to deal with in response to the Supreme Court decision dealing with the search of news rooms. Although the bill in its original draft was much broader than that. The committee amendments narrow the bill down simply to questions of searching with regards to materials developed for media publication. The Judiciary Committee took the amendments and showed them to all of those who opposed the bill. I believe it was circulated to all those or at least representatives and spokesmen of the major groups, spokespersons, of the major groups that opposed the bill and they had no objection to the amendments. Their concern was not with regards to news room searches or collection material developed by the news media. Their concern was that the bill would broaden the limitations on search warrants into other areas. So the committee amendments are acceptable to the county attorneys and to law enforcement. They narrow the bill considerably. I am not totally pleased with the amendments but I certainly will go along with them and support limiting this bill this year, just to the area of news room searches. So I would move for their adoption.