

April 12, 1979

LB 421

and that this section be removed and that we retain the protection we have for two of the most important constitutional provisions.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Keyes, then Senator Marsh and then Senator Cullan. Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker, I talked to Allen Beerman about this and he said, Orval, he said, if there are twelve and a half more signatures...I think it's twelve and a half percent more signatures, than are needed we will not demand that every signer of the petition be verified. We will, as a matter of policy, to make certain that things are going right, review every third page of signatures. Now when you get signatures for a petition, you are under oath to make certain that you are doing it to the best of your ability and that every person that signs that petition to the best of your knowledge is a citizen of the district in which he is signing the petition for. Also when you come in and hand that...I believe it's to the clerk, you have to, under oath, state that you have to the best of your ability, these signatures are right. Now Senator Murphy feels that we ought to count every one, and I suppose if you really want to get very technical about it you could have every one counted. The last time when we had the petition, I believe it was on the 11d bill, they had double, they went from 42,000 signatures up to 80,000. They had to verify all 82,000 or 84,000 of them. Senator Murphy, you could have called in your county if you didn't think the signatures were right. You could have called and had them verified, but you chose not to. But Senator Murphy, I do not think we need to come down here and put in the statute and force all of the county clerks across this county to verify every signature when we have enough overrun that it proves that it doesn't need to be done. I'm not going to oppose you very drastically on this. If you've got 25 votes to change it, that's fine, but Allen Beerman has told me that he thought that would be correct, it would, you know, and if there was anybody who would come in say, hey I don't think the signatures are right, we will count every one of them then, but if there is no opposition they will not count every one. They will count every third page and make certain, and then if they find discrepancies there, they will count every one. So whatever you folks decide to do...this is not my battle. I like Senator Murphy real well. I understand some of the things that he does are not exactly as I would do them. I have a great admiration for Allen Beerman, and I believe that every person that

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