

May 3, 1979

LB 221

to reconsideration motions, overrule the Speaker's decision. We are at a position in this nature in LB 221. For years on end, seven that I know of, reconsideration on Final Reading was as standard as carrots in a salad. I disagreed this morning with Senator Marvel's proposal on the six bills, not on what I agreed to yesterday, but on what I was confronted with this morning. Yesterday on item 6 in our agenda this day, there was to be a suspension of the rules which would be 30 votes and then each of the itemed bills would be voted on without debate. If they received the 25 votes they would go to E & R initial. If they didn't, they would return to their place in General File. As we started the procedure this morning, 30 votes on each item that would be suspended. Now, ladies and gentlemen, how many times have you been present when we entertained a motion to suspend the rules and take tomorrow's Final Reading today? And there is five or six bills on those Final Readings and we took one vote of 30 to suspend the rules and then we proceeded to take each of those, 25 votes and they passed on Final. Now this has been standard procedure in this Legislature for a long time until 221 came along and then we changed it. Senator Fowler's laughable explanation of his opinion of what the rules state puts it in a position to where there is no reconsideration on General File even of an amendment until the third time that bill is up because there is no reason to reconsider an amendment because you always have another chance. You will always have another chance on Select or someplace else and this just is not workable. I have so much to say about this procedure that I just get a little bit quaky so please bear with me as I attempt to straighten out my mind so that I can do adequate justice to this very important question of the cloture of the right of reconsideration. On reconsideration, in effect, what you are doing is reconsidering the vote on a question and that question in this instance is, shall be LB 221 advance to E & R for review. Now, either it advances or it does not and that is the question and that question has nothing to do with previous or postactions from that vote and in my motion I am asking to reconsider that vote and the reason being two known supporters of LB 221 had been present in the assemblage but were inadvertently absent at the time of voting and that alone is evidence enough for a reconsideration of that vote but it has nothing to do with what this Legislature may do next January in the advancement or the not advancement of LB 221. Now, ladies and gentlemen, you are receiving a copy of a letter from my personal legal counsel on this matter of the rules of the Legislature