

January 9, 1979

LB 436

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Stoney and then Senator Koch and then Senator Murphy. Senator Stoney.

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, a question of Senator Reutzel please.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Reutzel.

SENATOR STONEY: Senator Reutzel, is there any plan that we will attempt to educate the general public relative to this issue before it is placed on the ballot?

SENATOR REUTZEL: Senator Stoney, obviously I have no plan to do that. That would be incumbent upon each one of us. Obviously when we are out, in an election year, half of us are going to be out talking to the people much more so than the others, I suppose, I think that is an issue we can bring up. Other than that, obviously there isn't any plan for it as there is on any other constitutional measure.

SENATOR STONEY: Thank you, Senator Reutzel. As a member of the Constitutional Revision and Recreation Committee, I opposed this proposal in committee. Now I will admit that conceptually I agree with what we are attempting to accomplish in eliminating Final Reading but I also in retrospect know that this measure was on the ballot as recently as 1976. It was defeated decisively and again we are coming back in 1980 and attempting to sell the same proposal to the public without any attempt to formally educate them as to reasons why we wish to make this alteration. I feel it would be to everyone's best advantage if we wish to accomplish this to expend the dollars that will be necessary in placing this on the ballot, which is approximately \$25,000, to educate the public prior to seeing that it is again listed on the ballot because I feel that we will have no more success in 1980 than we had in 1976.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I sympathize with the remarks of Senator Chambers. It is an opportunity for many people to take a look at the bill but I would remind this body that the Legislature by its own rules, and 25 votes could very easily read any bill on Final Reading they thought had some significant impact and I agree with Senator Reutzel. The reason we had Final Reading was because many of the members who served this body at one time could not read nor write and so the illiteracy they