

January 28, 1980

LB 44

those sheephead were sticking to this \$26 because that is what the Governor said and it cannot be a nickel more. Well now that we know no principle was involved as far as the Governor's office, we can now attempt to insert some principle in the Legislature. Let us put this amendment on the bill and return to the people the amount they should have, and if the Governor gives his veto, we will override him. He is not the Legislature. We are. We have the responsibility and we have the final say-so. Let him give his vocal and swift veto that he threatened. I don't even believe that he will do it. The Governor is a man who moves by whim. If it seems that the current is going in the direction that he is moving, he will go that way and try to speak as strongly as he can. But then when he sees the tide turning, what does he do. All of those who went out on the limb with him are left out there and he cuts the limb off and there you swing until you hit the ground. I think the Legislature ought to take a moment, regroup itself and forget what has happened in the past and look at this issue afresh. We are in a position to give to the public what they are entitled to, and at this point in our deliberations, the Governor should be considered a nonentity. We should make a legislative judgment which is justified by the facts which is based on equity and justice. So Senator Keyes is offering us that opportunity and I certainly think we ought to do it, and for those who have been following blindly the Governor, you can see what happens when you advocate your legislative responsibility and leave it in the hands of an adversary branch of government. He doesn't trot over here and say what do you fellows think I ought to do about this or that. There might be two or three who are in his inner circle that he asks that, but even those two or three in his inner circle got suckered out last time. He got them on out there and chopped the limb out from under them, too. I support Senator Keyes amendment and I think we all ought to support it.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise to oppose the Keyes motion although I can appreciate what Senator Keyes is trying to do, but for reasons which I am sure you all understand, I have basically agreed to the compromise and for that reason I think it's a reasonable compromise and a responsible compromise. For that reason, I cannot support Senator Keyes and I would hope that others who really will think about where we are at and understand

6470