

February 4, 1980

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to throw in, too, and perhaps the proposals that have been adopted now as amendments to this bill should have a hearing and perhaps there are other considerations that ought to be given to other matters that could be included in the bill. There is, for instance, not only does it deal with drugs and the driving violations, but here at the end of the amendments, it is dealing with lessees and failure to return leased or rented property and some other matters and it just seems to me that this bill needs a good going over and I think the committee should take the time to do that.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Reutzel, do you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR REUTZEL: Very briefly, Mr. Speaker. I oppose the Wesely motion on the bill. We have had interim hearings which we've had across the state that addressed this problem. Senator Schmit, I think, had an interim hearing a previous year where this was addressed. I think it has been discussed. The amendments were brought forward at a public hearing. Senator DeCamp mentioned that we were going to increase the penalties up to fifty years for selling some marijuana and I guess when you mention marijuana somebody gets excited about it but I think the penalty is more accurately up to twenty years for over a pound. I don't think this is a bill we should get very excited over. We have had plenty of discussion in past years over it. I think we have deliberated on it in committee. I think we ought to advance the bill and I would oppose the Wesely motion.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers, do you wish to be recognized on the motion to return?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, I don't know whether the Legislature feels like returning this bill or just killing it and starting all over but I do have to say that on this amendment, I was upstairs when I heard Senator DeCamp discussing it. Senator DeCamp, I was not there when this amendment was attached to the bill so I wasn't even aware that it was added while I was absent and advanced while I was absent, so as a member of the committee, I am learning about this new material, too, including the part about the rented property and I can't say whether this is the procedure that ought to be followed or not, but I can say that on some of the things with the very, very harsh penalties, I would have opposed that, and it is not because I believe in coddling criminals but I have a philosophy relative to punishments and crimes and I think that if

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