

March 6, 1980

LB 789

look at the back of the room at the rotunda and you will notice that on behalf of those people who intend to benefit from 789 that there are no Bill Brandts and Paul O'Haras and Jim Ryans or Herb Shimek or Walt Radcliffe speaking on their behalf. This is not a group that can organize and can ask this legislature to move for dynamic social change like the bankers and the financial institutions can who came here yesterday and asked us to make money available at twenty-one percent over the course of one year. What Senator Goodrich is asking for is a fair increase over three years of seventeen percent. In a real context, that means that children in this state have lost ground. We are only making up a couple of strides in 789. We are not making any generous charitable overly excessive catching up with 789. We are in fact still strides behind where they should be but that doesn't mean that it is not a fair proposal and it is not a proposal that we should turn our backs on at this point. I think it is reasonable, certainly not generous, and, in fact, when we do this we have to recognize that by comparative standards to other sections of the economy, children in this state have lost ground since 1977 and we hope to take a couple of the strides that will bring them at least back up closer to parity than when they are now. I would like to say that William Butler Yeats in a favorite poem of mine, The Close of Heaven, said, "But I being poor have only my dreams. I have spread my dreams under your feet. Tread softly for you tread upon my dreams", and I would move for the adoption of 789 and move it across on the Board.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, the motion, Senator Goodrich, do you have a motion?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Just to move the bill to E & R Initial.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the advancement of 789 to E & R for review. Is that your motion? All in favor vote aye, opposed no. Have you all voted? Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Yes, I hate to do it but it looks like we are going to have to encourage them a little to vote one way or the other and very reluctantly.

SPEAKER MARVEL: A Call of the House has been requested?

SENATOR GOODRICH: I am going to have to Call the House, and when we get them rounded up then a roll call vote.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Yes. I am sorry but all legislators,