

March 17, 1980

LB 822

energy conservation, LB 822 should be defeated." That is signed, Ben Mickle, who is Chairman. And I just...as a matter of information to other members of the Legislature, the public reaction to LB 822 has not been as clamoring, I think, as many of us are seemingly thinking here this afternoon. It is my understanding of the five so-called public hearings held across the state last year there were not more than three people who came to testify in support of the bill. I have not received one letter nor have I received one phone call...not one letter, not one phone call supporting LB 822, and I am asking you the same questions. How many letters and how many phone calls have you had? How many have you received since the introduction of this bill? I submit to you that I'll bet the entire body here today has not received any more than ten...not more than ten. It was also brought out in testimony before the Judiciary Committee by Senator Chambers that law enforcement officers throughout the state, particularly the Highway Patrol, must meet a certain quota of tickets issued every single day, and this, of course, was denied by the Colonel of the State Highway Patrol. It is kind of interesting because if you look at the number of speeders between who speed between the speed limits of 55 and 65, we have a mere citation of \$10.00. If you are caught speeding 64 miles per hour, you pay a \$10.00 fine, send it in... you are scot-free. Today when we are trying to conserve energy, yes, we are trying to conserve energy...we are trying to be an example here in the Legislature.

SENATOR CLARK: You have one minute, Senator Venditte.

SENATOR VENDITTE: To me it seems ridiculous to think of advancing a bill such as this. The bill should be killed. It should not be advanced. The Highway Patrol has come before the Judiciary Committee, have indicated their concern with regard to LB 822. I am listening to the Highway Patrol and I am supporting the Highway Patrol.

SENATOR CLARK: Thank you. Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. President and members of the body, I, too, rise in opposition to this measure. I feel that radar is essentially a useful tool in detecting speed and in regulating our conduct on the highway. It may well be that some radar is defective. It may well be that some radar catches in its net innocent persons. There are times, of course, when the mesh in our net must be exceedingly fine so that we can carefully sift out the guilty from the innocent, and that time is when we are talking about felonies

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