

March 20, 1980

LB 627

SPEAKER MARVEL: No, Senator Beutler is up now and then you are up next. Go ahead.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I, too, oppose Senator Kelly's amendment. I guess I like to try to take an historical perspective on these things and really I am probably going to say in another way what has been said a couple times before but sometimes I worry about democracy and I worry about it because our system always seems to be a system of action and then strong reaction and the action oftentimes is too strong and the reaction is oftentimes, most of the time, too strong and it seems very difficult for us to keep an even course, to keep an even keel and to do the rational thing. In this matter of taxes there has been a strong action on the part of the voters, on the part of the people of this country. They are reacting to heavy expenditures and education and they are making demands directly and also upon their legislators with regard to curtailing expenditures and we in the Legislature in turn have reacted but I think that we have over reacted. We reacted with the 7% lid and then we reacted again with LB 2. What we should have done in the first place was reacted rationally with the 7% lid and let it go at that. We have had the 7% lid for a couple of years now and who is to say that that is not working? What is the hurry? What is the big rush? Why can't we rely on that and see what happens with that and if more drastic action is called for then something like LB 2. There should never have been an LB 2 but now that we have one I suppose we all feel some obligation to retain it but if we are going to retain it, let's have a sense of the historic flow and historic perspective and let's not overreact and make it more severe than it need be until there is clear evidence that the structures that we have put in place are not working. I think there is no such evidence at this time and as a minimum let's not adopt the Kelly amendment extending this to three years. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Hoagland. The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I see more than five hands. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed no. The question before the House is shall debate cease. Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, debate is ceased. Senator Kelly, do you wish to close on your amendment?

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. Speaker, I certainly do wish to close on the motion to set three years as the time. Part of my

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