

March 27, 1980

LB 780

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Murphy a question or two. Senator Murphy, when you said considerable opposition has developed to this bill in your area, could you give a number of people or who these people are who expressed the opposition and why they expressed it?

SENATOR MURPHY: There is specifically, Senator Chambers, a group and I cannot tell you the total number of them but I have talked to four of them personally speaking as they do without citing numbers for a particular group, yes. I would say, if you want me to grab a number out of the blue, probably thirty to fifty people, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, if this bill is designed to do something which can be viewed as a positive good and some people view having one of these commissions as a positive good, should fifty people, you didn't talk to the fifty, but this group would represent fifty people, is that what you are saying?

SENATOR MURPHY: No, I guess I am saying, Senator Chambers, that to my knowledge there is only one group that is advocating this bill and they are in their advocacy going to affect ninety-three counties and they, as far as I know, are pretty much resident in this county and I don't think one county should affect ninety-three counties. I am simply making it permissive for that particular group to have whatever benefit they perceive from it but I do not want it thrown wide open so that ninety-two other sets of county boards will have requests for additional funding. The bill provides not just permission for this group. The group can exist without it, but this is to provide funding and I don't think this is the year to be putting those people under additional pressure for additional funding.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Murphy, what is the negative about the existence of a commission which is so powerful that you feel there should not even be the opportunity for people to seek such a commission's formulation?

SENATOR MURPHY: I would say the opportunity is there just as it has been expressed here, Senator Chambers, but I do not want, as I say, ninety-two other county boards to have to be subjected to requests for additional funds in order to accomplish what Senator Marsh wishes here in