

April 2, 1980

LB 609

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 609, title read. The bill was first read on January 9. It was referred to the Government Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. There are Government Committee amendments pending by Senator Keyes' Government Committee, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Now we are turned on. I will tell you what I am going to do. I am going to move for the advancement of the bill and I am going to ask whoever wants to support the committee amendments to support them because I do not support them. I am Chairman of the committee, and who is Vice-Chairman of the committee can support the bill, support the amendments or, Senator Johnson, I believe they are your amendments and I would like to have you support the amendments to the bill.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Yes, sir. Am I turned on? Absolutely. That is right. Mr. Speaker, members of the body, the committee amendments that our Chairman is disavowing are amendments that deal very responsibly with the lid limitation issue. I don't think that I am going to spend a lot of time going through them. To a large extent these amendments took LB 609 and made LB 609 conform somewhat more to LB 627, which as you may recall is the lid bill. The salient features of the committee amendments are the following: Number one, the committee amendments increase the requirements of the numbers of registered voters to put the lid issue on a ballot from five percent to seven percent. That is the first committee amendment. Secondly, the committee amendment makes certain that any voter imposed lid shall last but one year, and at the end of that first year, it self-destructs. Third, the committee amendments make sure that with respect to any voter imposed lid that has heretofore been put into effect, i.e, Nebraska, Nebraska City and the Omaha Public Schools, that that lid shall likewise self-destruct at the end of the first year. Four, the committee amendments make certain that the issue shall be placed on the ballot no later than July 15th of each year as opposed to August 15th of each year, I am sorry, of the year in which the lid election is to take place which is the present law. Now I want to speak to the fourth item because we never discussed that when we discussed a week or so ago LB 627. LB 627, as I recall, says that a lid issue is got to be put on the ballot no less than one hundred and twenty days prior to the beginning of the new fiscal year. I believe that is the wording in LB 627, though I could have forgotten it. LB 2 as presently drafted says that you have got to