

April 2, 1980

LB 609

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. Speaker, I would ask that we hold that amendment until we see whether or not the committee amendments are adopted. I would like to speak to that issue.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You want to temporarily withhold it? Okay. Do you have other amendments, Mr. Clerk? The motion is the adoption of the committee amendments to...no, we are not closing. I am just posing the issue, Senator Lamb, so you go ahead and speak to the committee amendments. Go ahead. Senator Stoney.

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. Speaker, I had my light on to speak to the committee amendments, if it is all right for me to do that?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Yes, go ahead.

SENATOR STONEY: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, I think you all know what the intent of LB 609 was as originally introduced. It was to eliminate the disparity and create equity relative to the budget limitation issue. As LB 2 was enacted, the local option tax control law, it made it much easier to impose a budget limitation than to remove one. What LB 609 would do in its original form would be to create equity and that I agree with. Now the amendments that we have to LB 609 that we are considering at the present time accomplish four things as Senator Johnson has articulated those. I think you will find when looking at the first particular item in that amendment it increases the percentage that are necessary through the initiative process to call for a special election. I would say that LB 627 in its present form as it rests on Select File accomplishes the same purpose. Additionally with the one year limitation that is placed, the second provision of the amendments to LB 609 as offered by the committee, the same is true in LB 627. Again in the third provision which deals with the voter imposed lid, that provision also is in LB 627. So the point that I am attempting to make is that we already have a bill on Select File with one minor exception, that being the period of time which is required for the limitation to be imposed as far as the budget goes. This committee amendment would state that that date would be July 15th, whereas 627 would state that it be one hundred and twenty days before that budget is established and I think that that could summarily be addressed on Select File with LB 627 when it is considered subsequently. So what I would ask is that the body consider the fact that all provisions that are encompassed with the exception of the one