

April 2, 1980

LB 609

was introduced to correct an error that we had in LB 2. We had LB 2 several years ago and this would be or make it as easy to remove a lid as it was to put on it. So, therefore, I would urge the body not to kill this bill but to move it on to Select File.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: I have a matter of I think personal integrity that is expressed in this bill. I, and a great many others on this body, agreed that we would eliminate the unfairness of the material in LB 2. I made no other promises. I committed to no other material and I would like to see this bill allowed to pass in its original form. It is a matter, I think, of keeping faith with promises that most of us have made. I would oppose this kill motion.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: I will be very quiet. There are two things in LB 609 and 628, I believe it is, 627 that I oppose. One is to take away from the school board the right by resolution to call for an election. That is one thing that I think is perfectly right, and the other thing that I think is wrong is to take away from the people the right to petition their government and by a vote impose whatever they wish to upon them. That is the fundamental right of a constitutional government, and if we take away from the people the right to do that, we have destroyed democracy. We have destroyed democracy on its very basis. Now maybe the people don't know and I realize that that may carry a lot of weight, all the people don't understand the increment financing of the school board, of a county, of a city, of this state, but to say that they do not have the right by the constitutional method of voting, circulating a petition and putting it on the ballot, then whenever we do that, we are gradually destroying the right of democracy and, my friends, I ask you, if I could bend on my knee I would do it, to please not destroy this Constitution in the rights of the people of this state to petition their government.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Fowler, do you wish to close on your motion to kill?

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I in no way mean to attack the integrity or work of the Revenue Committee or the work of the Government Committee on this issue. I know that they have spent longer hours

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