

April 8, 1980

LB 637

and once after a successful reconsideration motion. Now my question is, how many times can we reconsider a bill? We have already reconsidered this bill once. How many times do our rules provide that we can reconsider a bill? And I think we'd better be looking at this very closely or we are going to have another vehicle here to stall legislative sessions by just merely reconsideration after reconsideration after reconsideration. I think we've had the reconsideration.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Can you let me finish this other one first? Okay.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, Senator DeCamp on the first of April made a reconsideration motion on 637. That motion prevailed. A vote was then taken on the bill itself and that failed and Senator DeCamp was on the losing side so he should not even be in a position to make a reconsideration motion with reference to the bill on which he voted incorrectly for being able to make this motion and the rule does say that if the body votes not to reconsider or if upon reconsideration affirms its original decision, then the bill is dead and it won't be reconsidered any more except by unanimous consent and Senator DeCamp is moving to suspend that rule so that it can be an additional reconsideration without unanimous consent but I think the rules do make it clear that if you are not on the prevailing side or an abstainer, you couldn't make such a motion as is being made and that is why I said I think this point of order precedes the one you are considering.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers, the motion that I have here is a suspension of the rules so I assumed that a suspension of the rules would counteract the comment that you made. He is suspending the rules. He isn't attempting to make the motion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is he also suspending the rule that requires you to be on the prevailing side?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Well, let me read the motion to you. The motion is to suspend the rules, Rule 7, Section 7a, and Rule 6, Section 7 and 9, to provide that LB 637 shall be reconsidered and passed on Final Reading with this one vote.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But, Mr. Chairman, isn't there a rule, and it is a general rule that applies to all motions and votes that we take, that you must be on the prevailing side or not voting before you can move to reconsider and