

April 8, 1980

LB 740

SENATOR NEWELL: So this is broader in scope than the original proposal?

SENATOR REUTZEL: It is only as broad as this Legislature would implement if this is passed by the people.

SENATOR NEWELL: Let me ask you one other question, Senator Reutzel. How long do you envision these exemptions to last? Originally you had five years and you have now decided to extend that to allow this Legislature to make a determination. How long would you allow them to last?

SENATOR REUTZEL: We took five years out simply because and I think you might agree that numbers in the Constitution cause problems. That is why we took the number out to do it statutorily. Now if you will look at that hand-out several states that have exemptions and northern states, I might add, range from anywhere from two or three years up to fifteen or twenty years. That is up to this body. I would envision something like five years as I had originally proposed.

SENATOR NEWELL: Okay, so basically you still are sympathetic to a limitation of approximately five years but you don't feel that there ought to be a constitutional...

SENATOR REUTZEL: I don't believe it should be in the Constitution.

SENATOR NEWELL: Okay. All right, thank you, Senator Reutzel. I would like to just speak to this proposal just briefly. I voted for the committee amendments even though I feel very insecure with asking this Legislature to go and write blank checks as it might well do when the legislation comes up but I think that a five year limitation is one in which we will encourage the use and at the same time it is more of a philosophical statement and I don't think that we ought to be proposing a longer period of time in that and I just wanted that in the record so that when we come to this debate the introducer would indicate his intentions and that might guide floor debate in a year from now if this proposal passes. With that in mind, I will support the proposal.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, I move the previous question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: I think we can proceed. Do you want to close? Okay.

9700