

April 14, 1980

LB 954A

the Legislature, and if it comes to a point of talking about who controls what, were it not for Omaha's lobbyist and the paid politicians in Omaha, this matter of repealing district elections would not even be before the Legislature. At the hearing citizens appeared in favor of districts. The only ones opposed were the paid politicians. I know the amount of trouble I went through trying to put together a task force to study Omaha's finances and perhaps if the officials in Omaha had done as much work and given as much time to handling the problems of the city they wouldn't have as much time to be down here interfering with the Legislature. I am opposed to the motion of Senators Bernice Labedz and John DeCamp.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Reutzel. The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? Okay. Shall debate cease? All in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record the vote.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Debate ceases. Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, I shan't be long but I shall be strong. Senator Chambers made the statement that we have had more shots at this than anything else. I would submit for the record which anybody in here can check, we have been denied any legitimate vote on the issue itself. Now do you know any other issues since you have been here where you stood up and you said, look, we will wait for a ruling from the Attorney General on germaneness and live or die by that ruling. We did it, when the ruling came that we were eminently germane on the bill that was involved, Senator Hoagland's. Senator Hoagland doesn't want a vote on the issue for whatever reasons, fine, but we were forced to follow the rules and we did. We did. And despite that, despite every offering and every compliance with any mode or standard of rules you could conceive, we have yet to receive an opportunity to vote on the issue itself. Why are we saying to suspend the rules, because that is the only thing you will allow us to do or even give us the opportunity to. Now we are not saying that you have to vote for this or against it. We are saying you should at least allow the vote. That is all. I would ask you, any of you, if you feel intimidated or threatened for any reasons that you can't vote on the issue itself, be careful, be careful. If we ever allow as legislators or individuals threat or intimidation from any side, whether it be a lobbyist representing a group, whether it be another

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