

March 3, 1981

LB 206, 206A

PRESIDENT: Before we start on Final Reading, the Chair has a very important announcement to make. I wish you would all pay some attention to this because it is a very noteworthy day. A historical day several years ago occurred in the lives of the O'Donnell family when Patrick O'Donnell was born. This is his birthday and another year of stature and attainment has been added to his years of life. Congratulations on your birthday, Pat. I won't tell how old he is if he doesn't. Okay. All right, now he is in good form ready for Final Reading. So if the Sergeant at Arms will get the aisles cleared and all legislators will be at their desks, we will proceed with agenda item #4 on Final Reading. So we can start before while everybody is getting ready we do have to...the Clerk advised me we do have to unbracket these bills, so a motion is in order to unbracket them before we do go on Final Reading. So has that motion, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers moves that LB 206 and 206A be unbracketed notwithstanding the motion offered by Senator Warner which was adopted on February 9 of this year and is found on Journal page 391.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I have talked to Senator Warner about this motion and he obviously will oppose it because we couldn't expect him to vote for a proposition that would go counter to a proposal that he has offered. And although I understand his reasons for not wanting A bills read until after the budget bill is read, this one is in a bit of a unique situation. I think there is no way we are going to avoid having a lawsuit on this matter. Last year the bill was not passed until after the budget and everything else. We were out of session and the Governor vetoed it. There was no chance to override so the issue was never in a position to be presented. The only way, in view of Senator Warner's motion, that this bill can be read at this point is to unbracket it and have it read and passed in spite of the fact that it has an A bill or an appropriation provision attached. Because of the time frame that would be involved in having a resolution of this matter, I think it would be self-defeating to hold it until the end of the session, perhaps having it vetoed again when we are not in session. So to avoid all of that, I would request that you vote to unbracket this bill, that we pass it and be in a position to resolve this issue of expenses once and for all. As you know, we currently are