

March 13, 1981

LB 500

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, I move the E & R amendments to LB 500.

SPEAKER MARVEL: All those in favor of that motion say aye, opposed no. The motion is carried. The E & R amendments are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Dworak now moves to amend the bill and the Dworak amendments are on page 835 of the Legislative Journal.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, we debated this bill on General File and I find it surprising that many members in this body voted against this concept for the past several years when the banking lobby opposed it for whatever reasons they opposed it. It is the same bill. It is the same concept. Now are you voting on issues as you see the issues or are you voting on issues as somebody out in the rotunda tells you to vote on the issues? This bill has been unable to advance for the last several years. Now all of a sudden there is not a red light on it. Now I can't understand that. The principles are the same. Now I think in the past if you voted against this particular measure you ought to have some darn good reasons as to why all of a sudden times have changed to the extent that you can now support it and as I look at that bill, there is nothing in that bill that indicates to me that there is any difference within this bill this year than it has been in the past several years. Now without those reasons you are admitting that you are voting issues, not on the content of the issues, but rather then on the strategies of some particular financial interest group that camps out in the rotunda. Now to address my amendment specifically, it is not a damaging amendment. Instead of 51% of the current depositors in the savings and loans agreeing to allow that savings and loan to change from a mutual to a stock organization would require 60% and I don't think that is a prohibitive amount, number one, and, number two, I don't think it is a unique new precedent. The second part of the amendment puts in the grandfather clause or a de novo type of approach. In fact, they can form new stock savings and loans from this day forward but any existing mutual savings and loan shall remain a mutual savings and loan so I urge the adoption of the amendment or with the adoption of the amendment I think we protect the existing shareholders, mutual shareholders, mutual depositors, if you will, in the existing savings and loans. We can comply with all the arguments that Senator Beutler so elegantly gave several days ago that if the savings and loan industry requires a new type of organization, if it is capital starved, this will allow it to attract capital through new institutions.

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