

March 18, 1981

LB 285, 446

CLERK: Mr. President, I do. I have an explanation of vote from Senator Beutler. I have a request from Senator Stoney to be excused Thursday, March 19.

Your committee on Public Works whose chairman is Senator Kremer reports LB 285 to General File with amendments, (Signed) Senator Kremer. (See pages 992-993 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, we will proceed with LB 446.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 446 was introduced by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee and signed by its members. (Read.) The bill was first read on January 20 of this year, Mr. President. It was referred to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. There are committee amendments pending, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker, members, I move the committee amendments but I think I had better explain the bill, at least briefly so that you understand what we are talking about. LB 446, this bill was introduced by the Government Committee on behalf of the Secretary of State. Most of the bill is technical and involves procedural changes in the election laws. There are some important substantive changes that I will alert you to. One involves the transfer of duties from Executive Board to the Attorney General of writing the explanatory language for constitutional amendments on the ballots. Now this is a considerable change from what we have been doing so I hope you will note this. I will read it over again. It involves the transfer of duties from the Executive Board to the Attorney General for writing the explanatory language for constitutional amendments on the ballots. There are also some changes in the law regarding petitions. There would have to be at least one-quarter of an inch of space for each signature on a petition and people would have to both write and print their names on the petition. Now we do have an amendment that changes that slightly. The committee amendments makes several changes in the bill with regards to the printing of names on the petition. The committee adds language that this is not necessary if the signature is legible. We also adopted an amendment of Allen Beerman's that makes the residency requirement for technical community college board members six months. This is the usual residency requirement. At the request of the League of Nebraska Municipalities we added language that clarifies that the term of office for