

March 26, 1981

LB 290

SPEAKER MARVEL: The next item of business is LB 290.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 290 was last considered by the membership on March 19. On March 19 the E & R Amendments were adopted. There was an amendment from Senator DeCamp that was adopted. There was an amendment from Senator Koch that was adopted. I am sorry, that was defeated. I now have pending, Mr. President, a motion from Senator Koch to indefinitely postpone LB 290.

SENATOR NICHOL PRESIDING

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Chairman and members of the body, sometimes you offer this position to clarify the position of this body in terms of what I think to be one of the most important bills in the Legislature right now, because it covers a span of time that we are all interested in, that is the license plate, the quality of it and the kinds we are going to have. We have been offering a great number of amendments and I think there are still some amendments that might have some feasibility. So to clarify this body's position and find out where we are in terms of our philosophies, I offer the proposal to indefinitely postpone LB 290. If we indefinitely postpone 290, we can go back to the drawing board and put forth to this body next year legislation that would probably satisfy the greatest numbers of us. As you know, I stand on the side of if we are going to adopt a license plate and we are going to ask it to endure in its longevity for six years, that we better take quality and not always look at quantity and the few pennies that might be utilized over that period of time. For one, I am extremely happy with the license plate we adopted six years ago which had a life expectancy of four years and since that time we extended it two years, and contrary to what people say if you look at the quality of that license it still shows considerable durability and, in fact, we could use it another year without any problems. I know that some of you live in rural country and gravel roads and I understand some of that problem because that, indeed, does diminish the quality of a license plate and it would any kind. But if you look at those vehicles that have that license plate that we adopted back then, those license plates today in many cases look as good as the ones you presently get if you buy a new car and never had a license plate. So when we start to expend the state's dollars for the purpose of license plates, then I think that we ought to be certain that we are getting quality, that we