

April 10, 1981

LB 134

SPEAKER MARVEL: We are going to try one more bill. When we started this this morning we said we would go until four o'clock. I would like to try LB 134.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 134 was introduced by Senators Peter Hoagland, David Landis, Don Wesely and Chris Beutler. (Title read.) The bill was read on January 13, referred to Miscellaneous Subjects. The bill was advanced to General File.

SPEAKER MARVEL: There is an amendment on the desk. Okay, Senator Wesely, for what purpose do you arise?

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to apologize but I would like unanimous consent to pass over the bill. It is an important bill and I am concerned about how many people are missing at this point. How many amendments are pending though?

SPEAKER MARVEL: We have got one amendment.

SENATOR WESELY: Well Senator DeCamp says he is going to support advancement so maybe we can go ahead with it. If that understanding is clear, let's go ahead.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this bill is the one and only bill we will be dealing with this session to my knowledge that has to do with the Political Accountability Commission and the Political Accountability Act and trying to shape up a little bit the statutes in this state with regard to political accountability. The bill deals specifically with one concept, one basic concept. I think that the reasonable expectation of the people of this state with regard to the expenditures of campaign contributions is that they will, in fact, be expended on campaigns and that they will not be expended for personal use. So, the whole bill is about trying to begin to make a distinction between campaign uses and personal uses. That is the basic concept and again, we are trying to make that distinction because we think that people expect us to make the distinction that they expect funds to be spent directly for campaign purposes and to guard against what I think are some obvious possible abuses of the failure of the law to make a distinction in that regard. Now let me take you through our thought process as we tried to deal with the question and I hope you will listen very carefully because I want you to appreciate the problem we had. One possible approach to the problem would have been to do a long, long laundry