

April 24, 1981

LB 296, 257

SENATOR NICHOL: Have you all voted? Record, please.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on the motion to adopt the Cope amendments.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Chambers, do you want to...?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that LB 296 as amended be advanced for embalming and restoration.

SENATOR NICHOL: All those in favor signify by saying aye, opposed nay. The ayes have it. The bill is advanced. We will move on to LB 257.

CLERK: Mr. President, there are E & R amendments to LB 257.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, I move that the E & R amendments to LB 257 be adopted.

SENATOR NICHOL: All those in favor signify by saying aye, opposed nay. They are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, I now have an amendment from Senator DeCamp. It is referred to as Request #2336.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator DeCamp, please. Senator DeCamp, we are talking about your amendments to LB 257 which has to do with the State Energy Act.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, I am not going to take a lot of time, I hope. As you know, LB 257 had all kinds of noble goals and they ran into a bit of a buzz saw. Maybe the most important of those though was an agreement reached with the oil and gas industry for a modest increase in the severance tax and that is in the bill now. Senator Warner put those amendments on. So now all we have to do is decide how we can pretty efficiently use the money we have towards energy conservation or towards energy whatever. All the multitudes of things in the original bill probably are not passable, quite frankly. And my good friend Senator Fowler and Senator Wesely I think maybe understand that. What is possible though is that the money we do have we use a lot more efficiently and correct some of the problems we are going to be facing here next year. I am handing out to you right now what the proposed amendment does, a copy of the amendment and a copy of the letter from Bill Palmer, the energy office whatever. The amendment does this. It simply takes the money from the severance tax and we are going to use it to weatherize public buildings, schools but the schools have got to do something themselves on it