

January 8, 1982

LB 492

RECESS

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Legislature will come to order. Please record your presence. Senator Fenger, will you please record your presence? Okay, we have a quorum. Do you have something to read in first?

CLERK: Mr. President, your committee on Appropriations gives notice on executive session for Monday, January 11 at eight-thirty in the morning, Appropriations at eight-thirty, Monday morning.

Mr. President, Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee reports favorably upon certain gubernatorial appointment. That will be laid over.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Warner, you wanted to pass over LB 535, right? Okay, so ordered. Senator Kahle, do you want to take up 492 now? Senator Kahle, are you ready for 492?

SENATOR KAHLE: Yes, Mr. Speaker and members, LB 492 was introduced by me last year at the request of the County Officials and it would allow the bonding of a county for construction of bridges. After...you are receiving now a white copy, a revision of LB 492, the only change in the new LB 492 is the fact that they have to have an election in the county before they can bond the county for the construction of bridges. I don't know if this bill will even be used. I can't really see how counties would be able to bond very much and then repay the bonding under the seven percent lid that they are now under but, anyhow, the way the bill is now written it gives the counties some leeway if they want to go ahead and construct bridges. Now at the last report, and you have heard many reports lately of how bad our bridges are in the state, I don't know how many state bridges we have that are in bad shape, but there are over 1300 county bridges that are below standard and even below use in some cases. So this bill would allow counties the ability, if they wish, to bond for bridge construction. They would have to have a vote of the people before they could do it so I really can't see that it will hurt anything. I am not sure that many bridges will be built with the economy the way it is but we thought that it would be fair to let the counties have a chance to have that leeway if they wanted it. Right now cities can bond themselves without a vote of the people but we put this extra safeguard in where we thought that county boards would not be able to bond unless the people were in accordance with