

March 15, 1982

LB 573, 795

SENATOR BEUTLER: I have no objections, Mr. President, to this particular bill proceeding to a vote but I have kind of a gut level reaction to the procedure of discouraging people from speaking on a bill and thereby discouraging debate on General File for ten minutes of debate. I think that is a real problem and I don't....

PRESIDENT: Yes, it is a problem with the consent calendar whenever you use it. There is no doubt about it. You're right, no doubt. Senator Higgins, what...?

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President, I just have a question to clear something in my mind. Does this rule mean that every bill on the consent calendar, if people get up and discuss it for fifteen minutes or more, then we aren't going to vote on it or if they go right to fifteen minutes there won't be a vote on the bill? I'm not asking it for Senator Clark but all bills.

PRESIDENT: I'll ask the Clerk if that is not the procedure. Mr. Clerk, is that not the procedure with the way the Speaker has them placed this tight? This is not the kind of consent calendar that we had when I was Speaker. This is a consent calendar that if there are still speakers wishing to speak at the end of the fifteen minutes, as I understand it, we just go on to the next bill unless everybody is willing to allow the mover to move it to take a vote.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Then what happens to these consent bills? Do they go to the bottom of the General File?

PRESIDENT: No, they retain their position and then the Speaker must put them back on again.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Okay, thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: So are we agreed then? There is no further lights so we will go ahead and take a vote. There will be no closing, Senator Clark, as I understand it. Take a motion to advance LB 573 to E & R initial. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record the vote.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to advance the bill.

PRESIDENT: The motion carried and LB 573 is advanced to E & R initial. Do you have some things to read in?

CLERK: Yes, sir, very quickly, I have four Attorney General's opinions, the first to Senator Kahle on LB 795; one to Senator

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