

November 5, 1981

LR 2

SENATOR HIGGINS: I am very much aware of that but the reason I am making the point, Senator, is I wouldn't want this special commission to think that "poet" would necessarily mean only those who are famous because they are male. As you know, we have had many great women writers who adopted male names because it wasn't considered proper at one time for a woman to write or to be published. So that is the only reason I would suggest that in your resolution or if you want you can send an accompanying letter to the commission when your resolution is adopted, and I will vote for the resolution, if you will agree to send them a covering letter saying, "We hope you will consider as many female poets as you do male poets", and it is about time, you know, that we had perhaps a female poet laureate.

SENATOR LANDIS: I will direct comments specifically to the Chairman or rather the Director of the Commission for the Humanities, Mrs. Anne Cognard, that women poets should certainly be given at least equal consideration for the position.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Senator Landis, I would really appreciate that. Did she draw up the resolution?

SENATOR LANDIS: It was a joint effort.

SENATOR HIGGINS: It was a joint effort. I would say this, maybe we ought to get a new director if she didn't think of this in the first place. Thank you, Senator.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion on LR 2? Senator Landis, you may close on LR 2. All right, the motion then before the House is the adoption of LR 2. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record the vote.

CLERK: 34 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the resolution.

PRESIDENT: I didn't hear you. All right, motion carries. LR 2 is adopted. Do you have anything to read in?

CLERK: Yes, Mr. President, I have an Attorney General's Opinion addressed to Senator Nichol. That will be inserted in the Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol. Yes, we will just continue on unless somebody moves for something else. Senator Nichol.