

May 6, 1985

LB 439

SENATOR VICKERS: Madam President, members, what page in the Journal was that again, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: 1731, Senator.

SENATOR VICKERS: If you recall, when we dealt with LB 439 on General File, Senator Smith had an amendment that was adopted to the bill. I indicated at the time that I thought the language was perhaps not quite correct. So the amendment that I am offering is an attempt, on my part, to clarify and to straighten up the intent, what I think was the intent of the Smith amendment to LB 439. It makes it more clear, if you will look at the amendment on page 1731, that the note to be given to individuals as they register makes it clear to them that if they wish to vote in both the partisan and the nonpartisan primary elections, then they must indicate a political party affiliation. But if they register without a political party affiliation, then they will receive only the nonpartisan ballots at the primary election. I think that, as it is worded, makes it clear what the intent was and what actually happens in practice and would urge the adoption of this amendment to LB 439, Madam President.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Madam President, members of the body, I rise to indicate that I think Senator Vickers' amendment, which as I understand was worked on with Senator Smith, is an excellent amendment. I think it is drafted properly at this point. It addresses this problem we had with the original bill and that is with the notification of the person registering to vote that they made it clear to them that they could not vote in partisan primaries without choosing a party affiliation. In addition to that it answers one of Senator Vickers' concerns that it does make it clear that independent is a choice that they can have when they register to vote. I would urge you to adopt the amendment.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Madam Chairperson, I, too, rise to support Senator Vickers' amendment to my amendment.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Vickers, do you wish to close?