

March 26, 1986

LB 1129

Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion carries. The debate is closed. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, there were some who may have wanted to debate the issue itself and that can be done. The vote now will be to adopt the amendment, and when the amendment is adopted, I will then go into the constitutional issues and any other provisions that anybody wants to discuss, we will have it before us to do that. But right now...

PRESIDENT: Right now, Senator, may I interrupt. Is your motion to return the bill to Select File for an amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It is to return it, and then after we get it returned, then we adopt the amendment, and then the whole discussion can occur, but this is a vote to return.

PRESIDENT: The motion is to return the bill to Select File for the specific amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. The motion before you is to return LB 1129 to Select File for specific amendment. Please record your vote. Have you all voted? Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 6 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to return the bill.

PRESIDENT: The bill is now on Select File and, Senator Chambers, recognize on your motion for the amendment. May we have order in the Chamber, please. (Gavel.)

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now we are coming to the amendment itself and I am asking that you adopt it. Once the amendment is adopted and the bill is passed, we will be in a position to force a court test just as we did on the expenses issue. Remember this, courts view Constitutions as generally written general principles which are able to expand to accommodate changes in society. That is why they are written more generally than statutes. The courts will not just tell you what a Constitution says, it tells you what a Constitution allows to occur under its terms. Since there are differing opinions as to whether or not what we are trying to do can constitutionally be done, we have