

April 3, 1973

SENATOR SNYDER: Well Mr. President, members of the body, on two recent occasions having left for a trip elsewhere, on behalf of the legislature I returned to find that more than one bill has been placed on general file without a public hearing. Many people in here have accused me of being naive or some word as that. That's not the point I believe very strongly in the public hearing usage by this body, and I think that if I was to leave here after four years and to think that I had turned my head on such shenanigans I could not live with myself. Now if the body wants to override me with 25 votes go right ahead, but as long as I'm here, thank you I needed that, as long as I'm here, I'm going to object every time a bill is placed on general file without a public hearing, again if it takes up time for me to have to jump up here and do this, but I believe very strongly in the right of the public having a public hearing on a bill, I don't think that any body duly elected by the constituencies of this state should take upon itself to place a bill on general file without a public hearing no matter how minute that committee might think the bill is. So as you've heard the Clerk read off the bills, there is several of them, I'm asking it all be sent back for a public hearing.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion of the Snyder motion? Are there objections to the request? Very good, Senator Carstens.

SENATOR CARSTENS: Mr. President, members I have examined the I don't know just what you call it, the digest of these bills, I suppose, and for that reason I'm reluctantly going to object to this request, for this reason, these are in the nature of revisor bills. Very few of them have any content in them that needs to be a subject matter of a public hearing, if they were set for public hearing, I don't believe there would be anybody there, and these bills have to be passed if we are going to have an effective election system, it is necessary that these bills be passed and become effective this year. Now if we are going to send these back for public hearing, we have, if my arithmetic is correct, we're not down to 29 remaining days in this legislature.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carstens, I'm sorry to interrupt you sir, your speech is going to be an effort in futility because page 17 at the bottom does refer in the rules, it's in rule 3, page 17, at the very bottom, those placed on general file will be bracketed for 5 calendar days, and if one Senator requests a public hearing on one or more of those bills they will then be referred to a committee, so the action this morning is rather semi automatic and I'm sorry I should have discovered the rule sooner, before we brought the issue up.

SENATOR CARSTENS: No harm done, no harm done.

PRESIDENT: Thank you sir, I'm sorry and I apologize. Senator Syas your light is on, for what purpose do you wish to be recognized? I have ruled the bills will be referred to committee, that is correct. The Chair would like to recognize 60 8th grade students that we have from Papillion, this morning, Senator Keyes, these are from Papillion, Nebraska, and they are up there in the north balcony, and I know you will probably want to slip up there and bid them a welcome, their instructors are I think it's Mrs. John Donaboc and Mr. Demke, and we are delighted to have you here today as observers to the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature, and we hope you enjoy your visit and also your visit to Nebraska's capitol city and this magnificent structure. Do we have any resolutions on the desk?

CLERK: None Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: We are ready for the consideration of bills then on select file, we've had, we've introduced bills, yes, ready for select file. Senator Cavanaugh in the Chamber.