

March 4, 1974

been killed in committee up on the floor and it's just stagnating the whole operation.

PRESIDENT: Are you all through debating the motion? All right then Senator Frank Lewis can close on his motion. Frank Lewis is closing.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Mr. President, first of all I'd explain that this bill has traditionally been heard before the Education Committee and I suspect I probably could have asked the Reference Committee to gerrymander the bill around like many are done and I knew the sentiments of many members of the Labor Committee and I'm certainly not casting a reflection on them but I think it would have been easier in another committee. But out of courtesy for committees that have been assigned to hear bills, I certainly appear before that committee and in my good judgment try to present the arguments as best as possible. Now, let me reiterate only two or three things. First of all, the purpose of the bill is again to speed up a process that you have already adopted. Now those that are philosophically opposed to negotiations, I appreciate that. But this is not a matter of philosophical decision on this particular piece of legislation. This is to make the process workable, to make the process so that we don't have settlements out of the court like we did last week which was 22 months before the settlement was reached. This is a bill that designed to say let's handle the problem locally. The court's already said if they want...if there's a failure to negotiate, that can go directly as an industrial dispute to the Court of Industrial Relations which in essence will say to try to settle the dispute on a local basis. So I again ask, and in reference to Senator DeCamp's motion that we don't raise bills, I think this is the first one I have attempted since I have been here. I know others that have attempted and in fact some of those that might have said some previous things about it. Again I mentioned at the start I wanted to do this as quickly as possible to save your time. It is a worthwhile bill. I certainly would like to have the opportunity to debate it in its entirety. But again this is not a question of whether or not you want negotiations or don't. This is a question of do we do it in an orderly process, do we do it locally before we take it to the Court of Industrial Relations. I would urge you to give me an opportunity to explain this on the floor in General File and at that time make decisions on the bill. But certainly you can do it at this time. This is not a vote on the merits of the bill, it's simply an opportunity for me to explain in full detail the purpose of the bill and the reasons for it. And I'd urge you to put it on the floor notwithstanding the committee action.

PRESIDENT: All right, the question is, shall LB843 then be advanced to General File notwithstanding the action of the committee. All those in favor of advancing the bill from committee will vote aye. All those opposed will vote no. This motion is to place LB843 on General File notwithstanding the action of the committee. That motion takes 25 votes. The motion is to place LB843 on General File notwithstanding action of the committee. All right, Senator Lewis, what is your pleasure? Pardon me, sir.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: I'd ask for a call of the house.

PRESIDENT: Frank Lewis asking for a call of the house. Clerk will clear the board. Next bell, please indicate your