

April 10, 1974

If the people think we're irresponsible because we wasted 58 days and are going to try to salvage everything in two days. We are as a matter of fact irresponsible if our prior conduct makes it impossible for us to do what we should have done when we came here. So I'm opposed to the motion that we are going to drag out the session, that we are going to allow time for delay for anything. And it doesn't matter to me who says that legislative prerogatives are being handed over to the Governor. That has been done time and time again by this Body. It is not new. What is happening boringly monotonous. We are all adults. We don't act like it all the time. But the time has come now, I think, for us to go ahead and lie in the bed that we made for ourselves. Senator Fellman has just about succeeded in knocking me off the ballot for Governor for his friend, Governor Exon. Naturally that puts sand in my craw. But there's nothing I can do about it. He is a very skillful individual. He carries out orders very well.

PRESIDENT: Stick to the issue.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'm sticking to the issue. I'm telling why we ought not adopt Senator Marvel's motion. Now, in view of the things that I've mentioned, everybody probably has some issue on his or her mind which creates some antagonism towards other individuals. There will be votes of a retaliatory nature or failure to vote for the purpose of retaliation. By accepting Senator Marvel's motion, I don't think there's any guarantee that every bill that the Governor vetos will be overridden by this Body. So here's what I say now. What we ought to do and as a legislative body, we can do anything we want to if we get the votes to do it. We ought to take a vote now. And I know some people's word means nothing. Senator Barnett feels that way too. We ought to take the vote now and see if the Body is agreed that every bill that the Governor vetos, we will override. If we cannot agree to override every bill that he vetos, there's no need in staying here to see which bills he will veto. We can read about it in the newspaper. If we're not going to override every bill he vetos, there's no need in staying. If I had a bill and he vetoed it and you wouldn't vote to override it, why should I vote to override a veto of your bill? We're down to that point in the session now. We may as well lay the cards on the table. This is the crunch as it's going to be every year and I'm going to do everything to prevent the adoption of Senator Marvel's motion. And Mr. President, if my seeming to wanders put you on the spot, I didn't intend to do that. Senator Fellman, nothing personal was intended, I hope no offense was taken. You're capable of defending yourself in anything you say in response, I have it coming and I'll accept it as graciously as you accepted mine.

PRESIDENT: All right now, under the rules, rule 7, section 3E says that any member may call for a division of the question which shall be divided if it comprehends propositions and substance so distinct that one being taken away is substantive. Proposition shall remain for the decision of the Legislature. The Chair's going to rule that the question Senator Syas has asked for a division of the question and the question will be divided. Now, Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: I was hopeful that Senator Marvel would have done this himself. And not force me to have a division of the question because if he would have voluntarily dropped this, you see, later in the day he could have come up with this same thing of some future date after we got started on Final