

April 4, 1975

SENATOR BARNETT: Well, I wish I could read the bill the same way you do. I know...we have had direct confrontation with the Personnel Board, as far as the application of their policies and rules are, and I think we've either got to make a decision, Senator Kennedy, that we are either going to be writing qualifications for personnel and taking it away from the Personnel Department or we leave it with them and let them set the standards and that is the only reason I would oppose this because I think you are taking it away from them.

PRESIDENT: Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: I would like to ask a question. Senator Kennedy.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Yes.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: What brought about this bill? What necessitated it.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Well, I suppose when we go back to Dr. Jack Anderson that was selected. He was in the service and did have the 7 year qualifications, which is, I understand, very hard to find, and when you set a time and his qualifications might be the same only that the time limit is changed so that when they have a problem of finding an Institutional Director, they just wasn't...the people that were qualified that had the 7 years. They might have had 5 and that is why I said to the Committee I thought that language could be changed.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Did the Governor and his staff ask you to introduce the bill?

SENATOR KENNEDY: No, I did it on my own. I went to the Governor after it was introduced. The day that it was introduced, in Committee, I went and visited with his staff people and then visited with John Humpal and the Committee, the Advisory Committee, and we in turn went back to the Advisory Committee to again definitely establish what years might be suitable that the applicants that were applying with the qualifications could be hired and we came up with a round figure of about five years.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Well did..are there other years of experiences built in to other Administrative posts such as this? In other words, is this just a one-issued thing or is it something that should demand the attention of the Legislature on a number of top administrative posts?

SENATOR KENNEDY: I would gather that there would be other qualifications as the Penal Institution and so forth that would be likewise to a degree. They should have the background, if they are going to be directors of this large of an institutional plan.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, this amendment was adopted to offer some type of specific qualifications which would be a guideline toward the selection of a person for this particular office. Now