

May 21, 1975

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: I thought that it said in the "A" bill that it was three, am I correct?

SENATOR BARNETT: Well if it takes three that would be real fine.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Do you think that three can cover the whole state?

SENATOR BARNETT: If they were in a proper position I'm sure that they could probably do a good job. There is more money in the electrical fund if they need more.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Yes, and what happens if the electrical fund runs dry, do we tap the till?

SENATOR BARNETT: If it runs dry, we don't have any electrical inspectors.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Well, as you know Senator I am opposing you and I will also have more when my kill motion arrives.

SENATOR BARNETT: I can appreciate that.

PRESIDENT: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Mr. Chairman, I was a little startled by Senator Barnett's comment that anyone that could read could pass the exam, because I thought that that must surely be the real estate exam that he was mentioning. However, I do have and I have had from day one some reservations about this bill. There have been several amendments that have been put in it correcting what I thought were rather glaring deficiencies. Senator Barnett said that they are not certain how many fires were caused electrically or others, and I believe that if I'm not mistaking at the committee hearing Ace testified that there were something like 225 fires from electrical causes and in the same breath that there were 250 fires caused by automobile back-fires, so I think that maybe we should have a bill about automobile carburetors rather than electrical fires. I think that I would further submit that of those fires, and I have asked this question at the hearing, that of those fires that do occur how many of them occur from a defect that subsequently develops in an approved piece of equipment. I think that motors circuit breakers and this sort of thing, equipment that does fail is by far the largest consideration in causes of fire. The thing that I think bothers me more than anything else is the fact that under this bill every electrician in this state would be licensed by the state and every electrician who took the exam would take it from the state. Every inspector who inspects an installation will be an inspector appointed or approved by the state. In case you don't like the way all of these things come out, you have a right of appeal and guess whom you appeal too? The Electrical Board who appointed these people, who issue the exam and who conducted the exam. You appeal from the fox to the fox. I think that it is a very bad bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Clark.