

March 23, 1978

LR 152  
LR 562

the list, but if we're going to start jumping bills up ahead of the other, we might as well forget the entire priority list. I think this is an important bill. It had no opposition. It was endorsed by the Newspaper Association. I think it is an important bill. It ought to be heard this year. There is no reason we cannot hear this bill, but we have to hear LR 152. I'm asking the same consideration for my priority bill as is given LR 152. Senator Barnett, do you have any comments on 562? Would Senator Barnett yield? Senator Barnett, what do you think the impact of 562 is?

SENATOR BARNETT: That's a very farreaching needed piece of legislation. It will affect a lot of people. It has to...

PRESIDENT: Just a moment. Would you state your point, Senator Venditte?

SENATOR VENDITTE: Mr. Speaker, relative to the motion that has been made, this certainly is out of the line of questioning.

PRESIDENT: I will rule your point of order. They have to stress the importance of this in order to appeal the Speaker's order. It has been done before on all the others and I think they have a right to say how important it is in order to have the body vote to appeal.

SENATOR BARNETT: May I continue?

PRESIDENT: I don't think the bill should be debated in great detail but it would be appropriate to stress its importance as you see it.

SENATOR BARNETT: I'll try to do that and if I get out of line just bang me and I'll quit, but I'm trying to say that the change of venue bill is very important to especially two or three trials that will be coming up. I won't try to discuss the bill but it's very important to the State of Nebraska and the people that are out on trial. It's really for the people in the State of Nebraska. It's real important that we bring this bill up. Other than my priority bill that I've got listed, Senator Reutzel, I can't think of another one on here that is important.

PRESIDENT: You have one minute, Senator Reutzel.

SENATOR REUTZEL: I would yield then to Senator Chambers. He may have some comments on this bill.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, I don't think Senator Barnett adequately indicated the importance of the bill. What the change of venue is so you will at least understand what we are talking about is that an offense is committed in a certain county but because of adverse or perhaps questionable advance publicity, it might be impossible to draw objective jurors from that county. So this bill would change the current law which says that the action can only be moved to the adjoining county which may also have been infected by the problems that existed in the original county. This bill would