

March 29, 1979

LB 421

workers in the election process.

SPEAKER MARVEL: All those in favor of the adoption of the Pirsch amendment to LB 421 vote aye, opposed no. We are voting on the amendment to LB 421. Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of Senator Pirsch's amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried and the amendment is adopted. Now would you like to explain the bill briefly?

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, in 1975 when the Legislature enacted LB 96 which is now 32-210, the current federal minimum wage was \$2.00 an hour and yet this Legislature saw fit to award \$2.30 as a fair compensation for the services rendered by judges and clerks at the election. There was no discussion of the rate of compensation either in the committee hearing or on the floor at that time and we all know how prices have skyrocketed in the last four years and yet this group's wages have remained the same. The important civic duty that this group performs has remained unchanged throughout this period and thus, there is no justification for what has, through the effects of inflation, become a pay cut for these individuals. In addition with the electronic processing there have been fewer hours required of the election workers. When we ask these people to serve on election boards we appeal to their sense of civic duty and in some counties, not in this county which only applies to election commissioners, they are drafted in quite a manner similar to jurors. The only opponent was Mr. Boyle, Douglas County Election Commissioner who, of course, was protecting his budget raising and I did include an amendment which would allow Mr. Boyle to cut down on the number of workers in his precincts which would decrease his fiscal impact somewhat. I move for the advancement of LB 421.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is to advance the bill to E & R for review. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion is carried and the bill is advanced.