

March 7, 1980

LB 649

SENATOR MARSH: Is Senator Kremer here? Yes. Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Madam Chairman, members, I think Senator Beutler may wish to speak to the amendments. It has to do with a hearing. Senator Beutler, would you like to respond? I think this is your amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, my amendments all seem to be technical amendments dealing with notices today. This is another one. It simply provides that if a hearing is held notice shall be given in a certain manner by certified mail to the applicant, to any person who requested a hearing and to any person who requested notification of the hearing and in addition it is published in at least one newspaper with general circulation in the county or counties of the appropriation. The whole purpose is to give proper notice to people of what is going on and if I am remembering correctly it basically conforms to what is happening now, to what the department is doing now, in fact, anyway. Thank you.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Beutler, is there any additional...? We are now ready and will vote on the amendment to LB 649. Senator Marsh voting aye.

CLERK: Senator Marsh voting aye.

SENATOR MARSH: The Clerk will record.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to adopt the committee amendments.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Wagner.

SENATOR WAGNER: Mr. Speaker and members, LB 649 provides for the extension of time. An extension time is necessary when somebody does make an appropriation for water right and they don't definitely get their construction all done and the only way at the present time the Department of Water Resources can grant extension of time is to hold a hearing. The hearings cost money and basically nobody appears at the hearing. Last year there were twelve hearings and of the twelve hearings, only two, two hearings people showed up so essentially there were ten hearings with nobody there. The cost of these ten hearings ran about \$2,000 and by making this change in the procedure to allow the Department of Water Resources if nobody appears, that they can go ahead and grant the extension of time without a hearing. That is the purpose of LB 649 and I would move the bill.