

March 20, 1979

LB 500

SENATOR MARSH: Ah, yes, Senator Schmit, there is.

SENATOR SCHMIT: And can you outline it for some of the members of the Legislature?

SENATOR MARSH: I would encourage each and every person to please contact the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for some statistical information. I'm not here to bring you specific facts and figures at this time. I'm only telling you that it is the Governor's request and support for LB 500, that it is his personal wish that this would be passed this year. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Senator Marsh. I commend the Governor for his interest in equal employment opportunities, and I commend him for his interest in the affirmative action. I've been here for more than ten years and I have not yet received one letter from an individual who has charged that discrimination does exist within the state government. If there is some, I would join with Governor Thone in trying to take care of that problem, but I certainly...

SPEAKER MARVEL: Thirty seconds.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...do not at this point in time feel any specific need to outline the program by statute. I think that the Governor has outlined his desires. I think that he is capable of communicating those desires very vividly and very vigorously to the individuals who are under his control, and certainly if those individuals or department heads do not embody the Governor's wishes, he has the power within his office to remove them, and I think that's a pretty powerful incentive to employ affirmative action measures.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cullan, do you wish to be recognized on the Committee amendments?

SENATOR CULLAN: On the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: On the bill as a whole? Senator Haberman, your light is on. Do you wish to be recognized on the amendments?

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, may I ask Senator Marsh a question, please?

SENATOR MARSH: Certainly, Senator Haberman.