

April 5, 1979

LB 101A

think this is reasonable and I think it is fair and I urge you to support this amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Landis on the Hefner amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I simply arise to agree wholeheartedly with the sentiment stressed by Senator Hefner. The measure is a wise one. This is the first year of the operation of the commission and we can't allow the initial budget to give such an initial strong base that we see the mushrooming effect that has been pointed out by Senator Newell with respect to the commissions of this kind. They need to understand as all members of state government now understand that we run a tight ship with our money here and we have to expend money for services carefully and so I support Senator Hefner completely on this motion.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Aye, Captain Ahab, but we run a tight ship when it comes to the poor. I want to ask Senator Hefner a question before I make any comment. Senator Hefner, you obviously had some rationale for selecting this figure, so what was the basis for it?

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Chambers, I noticed that there was money in there for a business executive and there was also some money in there for an executive director and I think this is one place where we could combine these two positions and I feel that if we do not amend the A bill downward, I just don't know if we have enough votes to pass it across on Final Reading. This is one of my reasons. I support the bill and I might say right here, Senator Chambers, that my Dad was deaf and dumb and so I do appreciate what Senator Labeledz is doing and I think we need this program but the first year I think we need to be a little conservative.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But, Senator Hefner, I think the record should show why and this was not just an arbitrary figure that was taken out of the air. You combined two positions which you felt might overlap and you think that even with this reduction the same service can be provided by this commission?

SENATOR HEFNER: I think it can the first year, yes. I would like to get the program going.