

April 9, 1979

LB 589

SENATOR NEWELL: All right, if we could have a roll call.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Call the roll.

CLERK: Roll call vote taken. (See page 1387, Legislative Journal.) 20 ayes, 21 nays, Mr. President.

SPFAKER MARVEL: Motion lost. Do you have another amendment on the desk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Newell now moves to amend LB 589: Read Newell amendment as offered on page 1388, Legislative Journal.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body, this is an amendment that basically strikes from the Commission of the Status of Women an additional employee, an additional employee, that employee being authorized to a salary of \$10,366. Basically the request is indicated as a staff assistant to serve as a public information officer for the Commission. I would say in justification of this sort of an amendment to strike that position that the Commission on the Status of Women now has seven full time employees. This would add an additional employee making it eight. The justification was that the new position was needed because of the intensive work that the Commission has in terms of information. I have always understood this Commission to be one of those Commissions that the Executive Director and the staff itself is to provide information. I didn't know we needed an additional office, an additional job classification. Let me say a couple of things, that in the last two years the Commission increased costs have been about 85% from the original, and for that reason, I think we could maybe find more justification for this sort of an amendment or this sort of a position maybe a year or two from now but the growth of the Commission on the Status of Women has been rapid at best, and for that reason with this \$10,366 stricken, that will still allow a growth in the general fund of approximately 9%. Without this stricken, it would be about 20% growth in the Status, actually a little more than 20% growth in the Commission on the Status of Women. For that reason I offer this amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Fowler and then Senator Warner. I am sorry. Well, go ahead. Senator Warner, do you wish to be recognized first? Go ahead.