

April 19, 1979

LB 152

ruling. I am going to ask for an Attorney General's opinion if this amendment passes.

SPEAKER MARVEL: I also think that you should check the rule book, and if you have suggestions as to...as to... because this comes up from time to time. If you have suggestions I think the Chairman of the Rules Committee would appreciate it. Now, I have lights on, Senator Labeledz, do you still want to speak to the bill as a whole? Senator Chambers, do you wish to speak to the Venditte amendment? Okay.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, this flip card was given to my son by somebody in the Legislature who was thoughtful. But now suppose you stood on the street in view of Senator Venditte's amendment that he is attempting and flash this. You don't have to say a word. Now that doesn't mean anything of itself, in and of itself. So then if the individual who sees it smiled, then you go the next step, and then if they smile again, you go over here, and then if they smile, you go to this one, and what I'm trying to get to is a consideration of this amendment without there being any bitterness, if possible. The reason the current state law is what it is is because Senator Venditte and Chief Anderson and others from Omaha wanted something in the criminal code relating to prostitution, and what is existing in the law now that he doesn't like is what under Senator Venditte's prodding was put into the law. A lot of times law enforcement people take the short view, and they won't listen to anybody who tries to explain that in the long run they are putting a wrinkle in the law that ought not be there. Not only does it make the law itself inconsistent but it is a provision which is unworkable and will turn out to be unsatisfactory to them. But being shortsighted and tending to look at today, and when you view today look at this morning, then lunch hour, then this afternoon when I get off, they don't make good judgments, and I guess that's why they're in law enforcement and those of us who are deliberative and thoughtful, we hope, sit in the Legislature. Now Omaha started doing something last night in the way of enforcement that I think will really put a damper on prostitution in Omaha. First of all, for those who are naive, there must be a buyer and a seller. It is a two-party transaction. In the same way that you can't clap a hand, in the way that you clap hands with one hand, there cannot be prostitution without two individuals. In a male dominated Legislature, the emphasis is always put on making the woman into a criminal as with abortion where the man slips out. Well in Omaha they

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