

April 19, 1979

LB 226

cally fitted to handle it. Now as I mentioned in the material I circulated, the State Board of Education is supporting LB 226. The State School Board supports LB 226. The Education Committee which heard all the arguments pro and con in committee supported LB 226 by a seven to one vote and I will give you one guess as to who the one vote was but these are the reasons that I say we are not talking about taking things away or disadvantaging these unfortunate people. The only thing we are talking about is how they are going to be served. I submit that they should not be served through the school district, that there are other agencies better fitted to do it. I urge you not to kill the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, and Senator Kremer, every now and then I have to quote a verse from the handbook of the Christians. Jesus once was talking to some hardhearted people and in trying to make a point to them he said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not for such is the kingdom of heaven", which meant to me that the children are the best thing going on this imperfect earth and at any point in their development when the society can do something that will give these children the opportunity to live a full or as full and wholesome a life as that society offers, that society should willingly and happily bring that forth. We also read that the children should not lay it for the parents but the parents for the children meaning that parents should set aside of the means to take care of the children so when children are brought into this world, then the society and all members of it should help insure that those children have the chance to make it. We discussed other issues relative to what kind of instruction ought to be in the schools relative to handicaps of children and the Legislature would not accept the idea that these matters should be put into the school curriculum by statute but we are not opposed to the Department of Education doing it so I presume from that we all recognize the need for a compassionate and understanding attitude toward those who unfortunately have disadvantages because of the way they are born or because of things that develop. Now when the abortion bill was before the Legislature there was...you could say the slogan was, abortion, no, emphatically. That was the first shoe which dropped. Today we have the opportunity to drop the second shoe so the slogan should read, Abortion, no, care, compassion and assistance, yes. Now when you say