

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I rise to oppose Senator Newell. He speaks about the wordiness that we are placing in the Constitution, but I would remind you that this is being explicit it is getting away from the political aspects as much as you can. It very clearly defines how this commission will be established. Senator Newell speaks of the over use of verbalism in the Constitution. He says that this is one of the most verbal constitutional amendments that we have ever proposed. I would remind him that he is rather inaccurate. He speaks of the number of words and I have quickly examined the number of words. There are 306 words that we are placing in there. But we also struck a rather unusual large amount of words equally. I would remind Senator Newell that he took longer than that to explain what he was trying to do when he talks about being verbal. So I suggest that if you want to try to refrain and get out of politics as much as you can it is imperative that this body leave this body of the Constitution as it is being proposed. It is explicit, it defines, even though I believe that the Legislature might be able to define I doubt that they would be able to define that well in law that explicitly and that clearly and as ideally as possible being as non-political as we could be. I suggest that we defeat Senator Newell's first amendment to LB 99.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Reutzel, do you wish to speak?

SENATOR REUTZEL: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, briefly Senator Koch covered most of everything that I was going to say but what Senator...well Senator Newell surprised me because all of a sudden he has got some sort of a law degree. We have had a number of attorneys work on this, and people who go to law school and profess to know what is going on and people who, in this particular instance, people who have worked for the supreme court for almost three years and worked very closely with the Constitution. Now Senator Newell is standing up and saying we don't need this. Well that is contrary to every attorney that has looked at it. What Senator Newell has not said is what we are really doing is striking the operative portion of this which as Senator Koch has said defines exactly how this will operate. To do less would be to leave it open ended to the whim of this body and the people I am sure would ultimately reject that. How much criticism when we talk about our salaries, how much criticism did we get last time because it was an open ended expenses. People didn't know what it was. Well if we adopt the Newell