

April 25, 1979

LB 285

an honest attempt, and that is what I think we have tried to do with some exception. If it doesn't work, if it's terrible, we'll know it before next January 1, and we can come in and look at it again, which I'm sure we'll do, as has also been said today. I would suggest to you that we not accept Senator Keyes motion, but that we go ahead and see what happens. I think we have done the best of our ability. That may not be good enough, but let's find out. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Johnson, do you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR JOHNSON: Yes, I do, Mr. Speaker. Members of the body, I wanted to make just a couple of remarks. Senator Keyes has indicated that none of us now know what LB 285 contains simply because we've spent a long afternoon chipping away at it, dealing with amendments, seeing amendments withdrawn, seeing amendments reconsidered, seeing amendments to amendments, and the like. Now the truth of the matter is we have had a considerable amount of confusion on the floor of this Legislature, but I do know that the members of the Revenue Committee have been watching what happens, and I can guarantee you that we do know what LB 285 contains. It is not a mishmash. It is has not been trivialized. It has not been gutted. It still remains a strong, solid lid bill. It's been weakened in some respects, but it still represents a very responsible piece of legislation by this body, and just because we have seen an afternoon, a quiet afternoon flitter away with amendments and the like does not mean that we should throw in the baby with the bath and give it up. Instead, we should reject the Keyes amendment and vote LB 285 as amended to Final Reading.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the Keyes amendment to the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no.

SENATOR KEYES: I just want to say one thing on closing.

SPEAKER MARVEL: I'm sorry. Senator Keyes, do you wish to close?

SENATOR KEYES: It's probably the first day I've talked on the floor of the Legislature for some two weeks. I want to read you just about seven or eight lines what this bill does. Every political subdivision authorized to levy a tax, or cause a tax to be levied, may adjust that portion of its budget funded by the ad valorem taxes for the upcoming fiscal year so as not to exceed an increase of more than