

April 27, 1979

LB 382

I put this motion in I think it was either yesterday or the day before yesterday. I had heard rumors that there were going to be as many as fifteen amendments on the laetrile issue. Subsequent to the introduction of my motion, I spoke to those people who were supposedly going to be throwing the amendments in, Senator Simon and Fowler, and they said that the amendments they had and that they were going to introduce were legitimate amendments and I said under those circumstances I would be happy to withdraw my motion to suspend the rules to at least attempt to advance the bill. So I think they are being honest and sincere and I think that whatever amendments they may have to the bill are legitimate amendments and perhaps maybe that we could take them up before noon today so that we could at least advance the bill and that is my hopes at this point. So I ask, Mr. Clerk, Mr. Speaker, to...I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my motion.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cullan. Okay, the motion before the House then is the advancement....I am sorry.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Fowler has amendments on page 1700. I understand he wishes to withdraw. Is that correct, Senator? Mr. President, Senator Cullan moves to indefinitely postpone LB 382.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would ask for your attention as I begin to discuss what I think is one of the most important, most damaging pieces of legislation that has come before the Unicameral this year. Senator, my good friend Senator Kahle said that, in response to Senator Murphy's amendment, that we were treating laetrile, he didn't think that was good because we were treating laetrile differently than any other drug and indeed the entire bill treats laetrile differently than any other drug because nowhere in state law, nowhere in state law, do we specifically authorize the use of a substance, set out and set up a system specifically for one special treatment out of the many thousands of treatments we have. Nowhere in state law do we do that. Not yet, but it appears that we are headed in that direction with LB 382, and as Chairman of the Public Health and Welfare Committee, I have to wonder how many other crazy treatments we are going to be faced with in the next two and four and six and eight years where people are asking for special treatment for their drug or their therapy or their cure or whatever it may be. It is a bad legal precedent to specifically authorize the use of something not now