

January 31, 1980

LB 465

SENATOR BURROWS: Yes, I would like to move the advancement of LB 465. I would like to ask the members of the body that if they have a problem with any detail as far as the workings of this down in that polling place where they are busy, I will express a willingness in every way to amend, to take care of that by some form that can be filled out to take these people off the hook. I think this amendment that we had 23 votes for would do it. We had considerable absenteeism and it appears that we probably had the votes for that amendment and I think people ought to look it over again, because I think it takes the problems away, and I would like to move the advancement, and look this over again on Select File. The issue before us is that of what the Governor, and I compliment the Governor highly in his speech, of increased citizen participation in government. That is the purpose of the bill, the intent, and what you are voting for now is to move it off General File with a way we can improve citizen participation in government. That is the issue...getting more people registered to vote so they feel they are a part of the system, and that they count in the system. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Labedz, do you wish to speak on the motion to advance?

SENATOR LABEDZ: Just briefly to say that I support the bill. I have worked in many many instances during campaigns where I have had to go to nursing homes and take the elderly down to the court house to register to vote. When they move into a...

SPEAKER MARVEL: Excuse me. No.

SENATOR LABEDZ: No, move for advancement. When we take the elderly down to the court house it is time consuming for both parties, not only that, I don't see any difficulty whatsoever in the system that they would not be able to vote that day. At least they would be registered to vote in maybe the general election. The elderly people and the people will know that this is their precinct, this is where they go to vote. They will not have any problem when it comes up to the general election when they go to vote. The... even in neighborhoods when we go door to door and find out that people aren't registered, we encourage them to go out and vote, get registered, voice their opinion, yet they are reluctant to go to the election commissioner's office because of the time, or going down town. The election commissioner's office also spends a lot of time trying to get places in supermarkets and so forth to get them registered to vote. This might eliminate some of that if the