

April 14, 1980

LB 647

dollars. There are still some that are going to go back on the tax rolls. How can you explain to the elderly that for many many years they had to pay no property tax but now this year because of the re-evaluation they are now back on the tax rolls for two or three hundred dollars. That is almost as much as they were paying before the homestead exemption. I urge you, you did save eight million dollars with Senator Warner's amendment. Don't cut the elderly. Don't cut the disabled any further than they are cut now. Keep it at forty thousand. We went to thirty-two thousand and that was defeated on General File. I am asking you not to vote to cut it down to thirty-five thousand because there are going to be many elderly people that have their homes re-evaluated this year and possibly next year. We don't know what is going to happen. Keep it at forty thousand so we won't have to be coming back every single year. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, just briefly, I am happy to be able to support Senator Wesely, Senator Johnson, Senator Newell in trying to reduce this amount from forty thousand to thirty-five thousand. I believe as Senator Johnson so ably pointed out, we have dramatically increased the amount of the homestead exemption over the past two years and the thirty-five thousand dollar exemption seems reasonable to me. I support the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: I am going to close.

SPEAKER MARVEL: All right.

SENATOR DWORAK: I want to close.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, the Chair recognizes Senator Dworak for purposes of closing on the combination amendment to LB 647. Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, I won't be brief. I just wondered if anybody was paying any attention. You know, I have been listening to Senator Labeledz all morning on this homestead exemption and it kind of reminds me of a letter I got from a constituent that indicated that homestead exemption is some kind of magic thing that just means that taxes are absolved and it doesn't cost the public anything. Well that is not so. What we pass in the form of a homestead exemption we have to generate that in sales and