

January 7, 1981

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask either Senator Lamb or Senator Warner a question.

PRESIDENT: Will you respond whichever one of them wants to respond.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The question is this, has there been any discussion among Executive Board members which would indicate that the intention would be to retain a specific person as Chaplain for the Legislature?

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Chambers, I am not aware of one way or the other, so I cannot answer.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lamb, could you respond?

SENATOR LAMB: If I may. We have been discussing this and we have decided...I have decided that the Executive Board will meet tomorrow afternoon probably upon adjournment and we will reference bills and also we will consider the matter of the Chaplain at that time. Now, Senator Dworak has been appointed as a person to gather the various ideas in regard to the Chaplainship and I would appreciate it if any persons who have suggestions would funnel them to Senator Dworak. He will then present a report tomorrow afternoon at the Executive Board meeting, possibly with some of his recommendations and from there the Executive Board will determine what policy will be followed.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Lamb and Senator Warner. For the sake of maintaining a record because the matter still is before the courts, I don't know if you all are aware of it but yesterday the Assistant Attorney General did file an appeal to the Eighth Circuit. So in order that my position will be clear from the record, I will not vote for any motion whose intent is to appoint a specific person as Chaplain. However, because I think the members of the Executive Board who have spoken are acting in good faith and are going to try to come up with some kind of solution, I am not going to give an argument against the issue right now. But I want it understood for the record that based on statements by Judge Urbom in his decision that when a governmental body appoints a particular individual representing a particular religion, and in the case that he cited from was the Christian religion, the state approaches a quagmire which may involve