

constitutional prohibition.

SENATOR MARESH: Thank you, Chris. I think we would just be wasting \$25,000 because that is the cost of this bill to have it published. In the past it has been turned down with a big margin, probably two to one usually. I would hate to see this money being wasted, ask the people to vote on this again because they have told us over and over they want us to have Final Reading.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the bill although I realize that Senator Beutler has a point, that there is a considerable amount of time utilized in Final Reading. I think it is really hard to measure the advantages of that time. I don't believe I am the only one that uses this time to make those last minute decisions that are so necessary in this process. I think the time probably is more productive than most of us really realize. There are other areas, I believe, in this legislative process where if we want to save time we can do it, and I give as an example all the conversation yesterday morning in regard to a resolution. This is an area that I think needs more exploration. We could cut down on some of the unnecessary debate that occurs on some of these resolutions I believe and utilize that time more effectively. I would prefer to keep the Final Reading as that last final search of your conscience to determine how you should vote on these important matters.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Mr. President, would you turn Senator Schmit's microphone on. I would like to ask Senator Beutler a question or two. Senator Beutler, I share your concern about the Final Reading. To me it isn't lost time. I make an effort to read again the final bills but I wondered in your preparing this bill, have you searched the records to find out how many times this has been on the ballot for the people in Nebraska to vote on?

SENATOR BEUTLER: It was last on the ballot, and I am not sure I am going to correctly quote the year, I think 1975 or 1976 and I didn't go back further than that but I think, and I will double check this for you, but I think that is the only time it has been on the ballot in the '70's...in the '70's.

SENATOR RUMERY: How many times, Senator Maresh? Three.