

March 4, 1981

LB 390

CLERK: Mr. President, the motion is as found on page 734 of the Journal to raise LB 390 pursuant to Rule 3, Section 19. That motion is signed by Senators Carsten, Newell, Fowler, Johnson, Hoagland, Cullan, Rumery, Warner, Chambers, Pirsch, Labedz, Beutler, Goodrich, Marsh, Wesely, Nichols, Johnson, Fowler, Koch, Wiitala, Kilgarin, Fenger, Fitzgerald, Stoney, Beyer, Landis and Higgins.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise this morning to move the bringing of LB 390 to the floor of the Legislature without committee consent. I do this with a great deal of reluctance. I am in my eleventh year here in this body, and I don't recall that I have ever in that length of time made this kind of a motion, and more especially, ladies and gentlemen, a motion to bring a bill from my own committee. But I feel so strongly about this subject matter that I feel this body has a responsibility to look at more than one approach. This state is made up of a great deal of rural area of which I am a part, but I remind you that this state is also made up of a lot of people that is concentrated in various areas, and it would appear to me to be fair and honest that both need to have some consideration when we start dividing \$70 million. When you raise a bill from committee, and I want this perfectly clear to the body this morning, you raise the bill as it was originally introduced, and the committee did put the bill in on a fifty-fifty distribution basis. To me, that was not the formula that was what I thought acceptable to enough of this body to pass, but as I said at the hearing, it was a vehicle to use in the absence of anything else. In our Executive Session, I recommended to our committee that we amend that bill to an 80 percent valuation and a 20 percent population formula. In my opinion, we were still giving rural areas a great deal of concern but were not completely ignoring people, and I pledge to you that if you bring this bill with me to the floor for discussion purposes, I have this amendment ready and will submit it to you at that time for consideration. I fully realize that when we are elected by a legislative district that we pledge ourselves to that district and to work hard for it. I am also mindful that we are also servants of the state and that in our deliberations and considerations and decisions that we act like statesmen and stateswomen and look at the state as a whole when we make those decisions. I submit to you this morning that we are in that position now,