

March 13, 1981

LB 74

SPEAKER MARVEL: Do you wish to move the advancement of the bill, Senator Labedz?

SENATOR LABEDZ: I move LB 74 from Select File to E & R for Engrossment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor of that motion say aye...a machine vote has been requested. Senator Chambers, do you want to speak?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman. I recognize and realize that some people are tired of this issue. And I have wrongly been characterized as being tenacious on issues, but here is what you have to realize. The only reason I continue to take the position I do on an issue is because other people take the opposite view so really they are the tenacious ones and I am merely responding in kind. But I am not going to let this bill move any faster than it is moving. In other words, I am going to do everything I can to hinder it. I know it has the votes to go, but I am not going to vote for it. I am not supporting it. And in view of the greed that I see developing with reference to how things are done by Game and Parks, my attitude is changing because I do not think the primary aim is to prepare facilities for the welfare of the citizenry but rather to create a certain image for the Director and maybe even a little kingdom; and I think that is wrong. If private industry does it you expect it because profit is the motive and almost anything can be done for profit. But where we are talking about looking after the common good and dealing with those things that are to belong to everybody, we have a different set of circumstances to consider and should set a different standard for judging. I think this bill is wrong. I think it is immoral. I will not vote for it. And I know my speaking against it won't make that much difference but it will purge my soul. And that is what I need this morning. And I want the Legislature to bear with me these last few moments. It is like a man who is about to be executed and they let him say anything he wants to say. They let him eat anything he wants to eat because in a very short time he will be done with forever, and that is the least amount of indulgence that can be granted; and it is not granted for him. It is a convenience to those who want to hurry up and dispatch him. So grant me that boon this morning to say these things for my benefit and not yours. But they will exist in the record from now on. And I believe issues are going to arise in the future. I do have a long memory. I remember the positions that we take and then I compare that to positions taken on other issues. And sometimes we see that legislators share one trait in common with the chameleon, that is,