

March 26, 1981

LB 290

that next year we are going to make the decisions that we are now trying to make, and I just want to make this point, I don't...I guess it has been passed now that we're not going to have new plates next year, but for heaven's sake let's get some bills passed so that we can, at least, start the production of license plates this year, because the argument that you have had is that, well, we can't get them done now, it's too late. Well, what's the use of putting it off another year and then saying we are too late again? And those of you that want to save a couple or a million or two dollars, I hope you remember that on some of the other bills that are coming before us that aren't half as important as keeping track of our automobiles and trucks and helping our peace officers. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I do support Senator Haberman's motion. I have supported propositions like this in the past. I think when we consider why a thing was done originally it might help us to determine whether we ought to continue along that path. I have never had it brought to my attention that automobiles were licensed for the purpose of law enforcement. When I get a license, it is as a result of having paid a certain amount of money, and if I don't have a sticker that indicates I paid the amount every year, then I get a ticket for not having the little sticker. So I think the license is to indicate that your vehicle has met the requirements in terms of payment of fees to be on the road legally. If you are talking about law enforcement, I think that is a ridiculous argument. It has nothing to do with the issue before us, and for Senator Hefner, Senator Cope, and even Senator Vickers, who usually is more accurate in his comments, if you want to help law enforcement, then you ought to require every car to have a license plate on top also. The State Patrol and various sheriffs and some local police agencies have access to helicopters and airplanes. So if we license cars for law enforcement, you should put license plates on top. In addition to that, you might find an officer taking coffee or beside the road helping a person whose car has a flat tire and a vehicle of a suspected criminal is going by. There ought to be a license number on the side too. That should be required. And under the unlikely circumstance of an officer being run over by a car, or a citizen being run