

April 1, 1981

LB 205

sections of the Fire Marshal's law. So all this does is change a little bit of language in that law and you can see that on page 3 of...well, you don't have the amendments, I guess. Basically, it changes language that says,"that you shall be guilty of" to "subject to conviction for". In other words, it is changing the technical language to say that you have to be convicted before you are guilty of something, which makes a lot of sense, doesn't it. So that is all we are doing is trying to clear up the Fire Marshal's statutes a little bit now that we have had a problem identified to us even though Senator Newell has no interest in that at this particular point in time. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I have not seen the amendment. I take this kind of thing very seriously and some of you all ought to be glad that I would not let this bill slide through even though some of you are anxious to be done with it. Had I not assumed my responsibility, nothing would have been done with this atrocity and it would now be in law probably. The Governor may not even have been aware of the significance of it had not I raised the issues and persevered. And now we get word that the Attorney General has looked...or somebody has, at other aspects of the law related to this same area and found unconstitutional provisions. Haste makes waste and it also makes the Legislature look ridiculous. Some of us cannot take the time to consider every piece of legislation thoroughly, but when a Senator has taken that time, it might behoove the rest of us to at least pay attention. A lot of times it is difficult not to resort to sarcasm and mockery on this floor because that is the only way you can catch people's attention and save them from themselves. We are enacting laws and the laws that we enact will affect the lives of all of the citizens of the state potentially. When we talk about things like granting the power to inflict lethal force, or use lethal force, or employ it, that is a serious decision that we are making. And I think you ought to overcome whatever little pique or irritation you may have based on the way I approach these matters and look at the issue. When everybody has been lined up on an issue, it is necessary to find some way to bring that type of thing to a halt so that people can calmly consider the issue that is before us. And what I would like to have, Mr. Speaker, is a copy of the amendment because Senator Newell has not shown which provisions of the bill have been stricken. Is it all of