

April 1, 1981

LB 5

takes time and requires concentration. But I don't think every burden is hurtful, some are of value and some are essential. I wouldn't say that Final Reading, Senator Marsh, is an absolute necessity to having the system function effectively when you think of the system as a generic term that applies to every legislative body in the world...or in the universe, if there are legislative bodies in other places than on this planet. But considering what I know about the Nebraska Unicameral, it is a very wholesome practice. I think it does more good than cause harm, and I hope that the 30 votes to bring this bill back for reconsideration are not here this morning.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Before we turn to Senator Cope, I wish to introduce from the districts of Senator Wesely, Beutler and Marsh, 55 students, 9th Grade, Lincoln East High, and teachers, Dwain Myers, David Bacon and Allison Peek. Will you raise your hands so we can see where you are so we can welcome you. Where are you located? Okay. Senator Cope. Where did Senator Cope go? Senator Marsh, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR MARSH: Second time, Mr. Speaker. I would like to respond to Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, there still would be the safeguard which you desire for, in fact, you could ask to have every bill read on Final Reading if you so desired. But some of them might not be necessary for understanding, and it would not be in the Constitution. What is...would be in the Constitution when this change is passed is the safeguard allowing a Senator to request that a bill on Final Reading be read. So your safety would be protected and yet on a simple half-page bill it would not be necessary to read. It certainly does not add to the understanding to read a budget document. What you need for the understanding is an explanation of what those dollar figures do, not reading one figure after another figure, and that kind of an explanation really needs to be done before Final Reading. I still rise to support LB 5 as it is presented to us because I believe that the safeguard which Senator Chambers feels is important is left in the Constitution. When any one Senator has that privilege, then the safeguard would remain and that would remain as part of the Constitution. It simply would not mean that every single bill, when no one had a need to have it read aloud, would of necessity have to be read anyway to take unnecessary time. I think the safeguard would be there for Senator Chambers. There might be times that Senator Marsh would want to ask to have a bill read, but that safeguard would