

April 8, 1981

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are referring to an investigation that had been mentioned earlier in the bill. The word "investigation" does not occur anywhere earlier in the bill. So when it says, "any such investigation", there is no investigation that has been defined or even described with the word "investigation". And you can call it harassing a bill if you want to, but this bill does not do what Senator Newell has led you to say that it does. If you look in the title of the bill which is supposed to tell you what the contents of the bill will be, you find the words, "during investigations as prescribed". You don't find the words "arson investigation" in the title. You don't find it in the body of the bill. You don't find it in the definitional section of a law enforcement officer which has been changed. So I hope that what you will do is to return this bill and not make this broad grant of power. Even those of you who may have worked on the bill earlier, it is not in the form that you in good conscience could vote for it. Senator Landis is a lawyer. Senator Johnson is a lawyer. Senator Beutler is a lawyer. Senator DeCamp is a lawyer, and Senator Hoagland is a lawyer. Now there come times when I think even though these people are in the Legislature primarily as lawmakers, they continue to carry the responsibilities of lawyers, and this means that they should carefully read material that they are going to vote on, and if that material does not properly reflect what it is supposed to reflect, they could not in good conscience vote for it. I don't see how any lawyer reading this bill could vote for it when they know that the understanding falsely has been given that the bill is limited to a time when these people are conducting arson investigations. The record will be clear on the position that I have taken, the attempts that I have made to clarify this issue, simply by telling you what the bill actually says and what it does not say. What some of you who are trying to support this bill should be asking is, why Senator Newell has been so steadfast in refusing to put the words "arson investigation" in the bill if, in fact, that is what he wants it limited to. All I can do now is say over and over what I have already said. There was a guy in Hitler's establishment, to paraphrase him, who said that you can cause people to believe even the biggest lie if you repeat it long enough and often enough. Unfortunately, that principle does not apply when you deal with the truth. The truth can be taken and used to slap somebody in the face with, but they still will not see it. This bill is not limited to arson investigations, and if you read it, you will see it. I think it is a hoax on the people if you pass it. And if Senator Newell is insistent on continuing to deal with this bill, you should require

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