

April 27, 1981

LB 284

I personally believe is constitutional.

PRESIDENT: The motion before the House then is the return of LB 284 for the DeCamp specific amendment. The motion is to return. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Still on Final Reading, everybody is to be at their desks. Record the vote.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 12 nays on the motion to return the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion carries. LB 284 is returned. Senator DeCamp, do you wish to offer your amendment?

SENATOR DeCAMP: I move adoption of the amendment and I believe we have pretty well discussed in the movement to move it back, and so I wouldn't have anything more unless somebody else does and then I would offer a closing if that occurs.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature and especially Senator DeCamp, be cool, John, I am not going to criticize and attack you at all. Senator DeCamp and I probably do go back and forth on the legal significance of an issue more than any other two people in this Legislature. But what I will do on an issue is evaluate it and review it from the standpoint of my own information and knowledge and not from a position of political strength in terms of how many people in the Legislature will vote to agree with me, or how much access I may have to the Governor's office. I don't think Senator DeCamp's challenge should be taken seriously that he would resign from the Legislature because the vagaries of judicial decisions are such that a gamble like that is worse than trying to win money in Las Vegas. But this thing I will say, the constitutionality or unconstitutionality of this bill has been discussed but that is not the primary consideration. That is talking in code as occurs in so many instances when we discuss bills on this floor. There are some people who simply feel that the way the money would be distributed is unfair. Or let me not use the word "unfair", disadvantageous. There are different formulae which might be more advantageous to the regions we come from. Now if we are going to talk about the law and the significance of that, I want to put to rest for everybody in this Chamber right now the idea that what the law would do or what a court would say has any meaning to