

April 30, 1981

LB 558

SENATOR NICHOL: Okay, we are talking about \$25,000 for the study to redistrict the District Judges, and if you recall I visited with you a few days ago about \$25,000 that may have been in the Supreme Court Justice budget. Is it true that that money was not there?

SENATOR WARNER: What I understand...well, the \$25,000 is not there for the '81-'82 fiscal year, the one coming up. I believe, and I was not at the Exec Board meeting, I understood that the Supreme Court indicated they had... might have \$25,000...they would otherwise lapse, as I understood it, that could be used for this purpose. So presuming that they meant they were going to lapse it, and then it is appropriated here, it's whichever dollar you take the pocket out of, but that would come out the same. I think the issue that Senator Beutler is raising is whether the money ought to be under the control of the Legislature, or under the Supreme Court to make the study, I assume would be the basic issue.

SENATOR NICHOL: Yes, that's right. Thank you, Senator Warner. So what we are saying to you, whether the money is there or whether it is transferrable or not, it should be budgeted in this way so the money is there if we need it. I really don't think we will need this much but I do suggest that you go along with this on it. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, without taking a position on this study, I would say that if this study is necessary that this is the proper way to approach it. We did have a request, the Executive Board of the Legislative Council did have a request from the Judiciary Committee requesting that the Executive Council budget finance this as an interim study of the Judiciary Committee. The problem with that approach is that we do not have that kind of money for these studies and it needs to be budgeted through the regular budgeting process, and this would be the proper way to approach the problem.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Marsh. The motion is the Beutler amendment to LB 558. Senator Beutler, do you wish to close?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I would just like to say, Mr. Speaker, that I have never felt more comfortable with requesting money because I feel very confident that the money spent here will return savings many times over for the state in the next three or four years. And you can be assured that I am personally going to stay on top of the redistricting,