

March 10, 1982

LB 647

is the Common Cause people. If you want to throw everything out, well, let's talk about them a little bit. They oppose this bill but I really think that this bill is a good bill. I think that Senator Johnson is trying to gut this bill and, therefore, I would ask you to vote against Senator Johnson's amendment. If you look in your bill book, you will find that Senator Johnson did vote this bill out of committee and so I submit to you if he voted it out of committee he must of not thought it was so bad. So I would like to have you consider that.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Johnson, I will give you one minute to close and we will take a vote on your amendment and then we will cut off the bill.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. My amendment very simply would allow a registered voter in Douglas County to go down to Sarpy County and circulate petitions on an initiative or referendum matter and not have to post a bond. LB 647 would not allow a voter of Douglas County to go to any other county, couldn't post a bond or anything. He just can't go any place. To me that is too great an impediment on the great right to initiate and referenda matters. My amendment also would eliminate all of the narrowing restrictions that LB 647 intends to put on our initiative and referendum process. I happen to think those narrowing restrictions are bad restrictions. I did vote to get the bill out of committee making it quite clear at the time that it was my intention to try to liberalize the initiative and referendum law as opposed to narrow them as LB 647 would do. I would ask your support for this amendment. I would also ask a record vote.

SENATOR CLARK: The question before the House is the adoption of the Johnson amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Voting on the Johnson amendment. A Call of the House has been requested. All those in favor of a Call of the House will vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record the vote.

CLERK: 15 ayes, 0 nays to go under Call, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: The House is under Call. All unauthorized personnel will leave the floor please. Other Senators will take their seats and, Sergeant at Arms, can you get them into their seats please and they will all check in. We have four excused. We are looking for Senator Lowell Johnson, Senator DeCamp. Senator DeCamp, will you check in please? Senator Kremer. Thank you. Senator Fowler.

8623