

brother Harry Schmit. Would Mrs. Schmit and Harry stand and be recognized and welcome to the Unicameral Legislature to the Schmit's. We have a young man who is having a birthday, Senator Don Wesely's 28th birthday is being celebrated. We say happy birthday. His mother has made kolache's for the legislature which are being distributed at this time. So that will make your morning for you. Happy birthday Senator Wesely. Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, again this bill is before us and I'll say again that I don't care about the bill one way or the other. But as I have said on other occasions a bill, or the subject matter of that bill will sometimes phase over into other issues about which I have a tremendous amount of concern. One of those issues relate to legislative independence and prerogatives. As a member of the Legislature no matter how upset I may be at various members for your inability to recognize the validity of my opinions, information and vote the way I want you to vote there nevertheless comes a time when as a member of this body I have to have enough interest in its integrity over all to speak when I think there has been a public onslaught against that integrity. I think the Governor, at least for me, has transformed this issue from (1) dealing with a squabble among bankers and perhaps it is becoming more than that now, based on what Senator Johnson has pointed out in terms of competition and so forth. He has changed it from a squabble among bankers into one of legislative independence and prerogatives. Last year he did not want to declare an opinion one way or the other. Kind of delicately walking the tightrope as some politicians are able to do very capably. This year he has indicated a bill which has not received nearly as much debate as other less significant issues has taken too much of the Legislature's time. He said the Legislature ought not consider this bill. Let the bankers deal with it. He has not taken that position on any other issue that I am familiar with. I will not say that his only reason for doing this is the fact that it is a campaign year, but I think that definitely has something to do with it. For my part, I take offense when the Governor tells me as a member of the Legislature I don't even the right to give consideration to an issue. If I thought this was a silly issue, the fact that it is before us gives me a right as a member of the Legislature to consider it and determine for myself whether it is silly or whether it merits my serious attention. So, I think what the Governor has done is made a move that is not in the best interest of those who are opposed to this bill. He has come in with a small stick and a big voice. He should have followed the advice of Teddy Roosevelt, walk softly and carry the big stick. Button hole or collar