

February 21, 1989      LB 298, 312  
                                 LR 32

PRESIDENT: We're on the advancement of the...

SENATOR LANDIS: In that case let me just say, I didn't remember the vote on that one. I glad it got adopted. If you'll...now on the question of the advancement of the bill and you're listening to the argument, there are two or three questions to ask yourself. If you think that the law should force somebody to operate or sell a product at a loss, vote against the bill. If you think that there is no difference between the cost structure of printing a thousand newspapers and printing 100,000 newspapers, vote against the bill. But if you have some belief in the notion of the marketplace where a consumer comes to somebody who is selling a product and if the product's price is too high they can walk away, then I think you have every reason to think that 298 is going to work. What it says is, if a newspaper will not charge the legal rate but wants to charge more than the legal rate, whoever is doing business with them can walk away and publish their notice on the courthouse door, and that should suffice. That is what a consumer does when they are getting an extortionate price put on a product. It is what we normally believe in and that is that there is discipline in the marketplace that will work here, we allow the political subdivisions to walk away if the newspapers won't charge the legal rate. That is a reasonable method of discipline. I urge the advancement of the bill.

PRESIDENT: The question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 35 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to advance LB 298.

PRESIDENT: LB 298 is advanced. LB 48.

CLERK: May I read some items for the record, Mr. President?

PRESIDENT: Yes, sir, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, new resolution, LR 32 offered by Senator Wesely. (Read brief explanation. See page 798 of the Legislative Journal.) That resolution will be laid over.

I have amendments to be printed to LB 312 by Senator Withem and