

March 16, 1990

LB 1141
LR 239

and they read and they study what 1141 is going to do, and then in the next session, we come back and we find some flaws or we get 25 votes to change something, then, in essence, the citizens have voted in a constitutional amendment with the understanding this is what is going to happen if it passes, then the body can come back and change that. I don't think that is quite fair. I don't think it is up front. I would feel much more comfortable in supporting LR 239CA, which I do not at this time, if we were not going to tell the citizens about 1241 (sic) because it can and possibly will be changed. So I don't know whether we are really being up front with them, Senator Withem, as we cannot bind another session, and I can tell you now that we will find some things that have to be changed, and maybe those changes would have changed some votes of the citizens who either supported LR 239CA or who were opposed to LR 239CA. So, personally, I would like to see LR 239CA stand on its own two feet, and then if the citizens want to trust the Legislature in their wisdom...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR HABERMAN: ...to come back and forge legislation to put LR 239CA into effect, to me that would be a fairer way to do it. I do oppose 1141. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, please.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a brief comment, and if Senator Withem would like to have any of my time, I will grant him some of that, but usually when I do that, there is only a minute left anyway, or less. But, nonetheless, yes, so don't count on very much time. Senator Haberman, I think you raise a valid point. On the other hand, I would like to put on the other coin, if the Legislature, for example, would talk about LR 239CA and not have had 1141, and we would have had nothing to show them and we would have said we want you to approve this but we are not going to give you any idea of what it is going to look like, you know, I think that would have been equally as difficult for the voters. In fact, I think it would have made it more difficult. So I think the Education Committee, at least, was saying that in regards to this bill, I think we need to advance the bill. I think we need to have it on the floor discussion, so when it does go before the voters, they can have something when they vote to look at to say we have an idea of what this might look like. Now in my view,