

April 9, 1990

LB 1141
LR 239

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner, please.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, and members of the Legislature, the rule suspension is one we discussed the other day which is the provisions in Rule 4 that require a constitutional amendment to be treated as a bill in which the various stages of consideration that we all are familiar with. I handed out to you earlier this morning as again as we discussed the other day of the ability for a constitutional amendment, in effect, to be enacted in one day, the only condition being that before it is on Final Reading that the provisions should be on the members' desks. I have such a motion to offer on both, 239, and on LR...or excuse me, LB 1141 with the amendments that could be attached. The amendment that applies to 239, in essence, is one that was offered by Senator Conway the other day, redrafted so that it includes the community colleges under the provisions of coordination, and it removes from it the possible problem of conflict relative to the ability of community colleges to have a property tax. It would preserve that concept, as it is now, that they could continue to have a property tax and the fact that they did would not interfere with the ability of a coordinating body to act in a coordinating function and cover the community colleges as well. So I would ask that the 30 votes to suspend the rules to permit consideration of Senator Conway's amendment which is pending, and if that is adopted, then as soon as there is a reprinted copy on our desk, then Final Reading could be done. I would suggest, and also to accommodate what Senator McFarland just indicated, if the Speaker is willing, while the typing is done to place on your desk the constitutional amendment with the Conway amendment included, probably a discussion on LB 1141 could be done to see whether or not there is sufficient votes to amend that bill with the language that was passed out earlier this morning. And when that was done, then a vote could be done on 239 which would be properly before you, and in the case of LB 1141, unless there was a change made in the copy that is before you, that vote could be taken immediately and I assume most people have a fairly good feeling as to which of the two concepts that they would prefer. Both of them, the principal difference between the two concepts is the creation of institutional boards in 239. LB 1141 retains the Board of Regents and Board of Trustees as we know them today but this new coordinating commission would have substantial coordinating authority in program approval and disapproval, comprehensive planning, and budget presentation to the Legislature. With that general discussion, I would ask that