

January 9, 1992      LB 424, 718A

CLERK:    25 ayes, 4 nays, Madam President, on the advancement of 718A.

PRESIDENT MOUL:    LB 718A is advanced.    LB 424.

CLERK:    Madam President, 424 was a bill introduced by Senator Wesely and Senator Conway.    (Read title.)    The bill was introduced on January 18 of last year, referred to the Government Committee for public hearing.    The bill was advanced to General File.    I do have committee amendments pending by the Government Committee.

PRESIDENT MOUL:    Senator Conway.

SENATOR CONWAY:    Thank you, Madam President, and members.    LB 424 that was brought to us by Senator Wesely was initially designed to address some concerns that people were having relative to the new found activity associated with paid petition circulators.    The original idea that is in the green copy has been significantly altered and literally most of that particular language stricken, although I think that the committee was adhering to the basic concepts behind the bill and I think Senator Wesely will probably concur with the committee amendment being a good alternative to what he had originally addressed with an attempt to curtail the activity that we're talking about, or not curtail it but at least make it publicly exposed.    What we're talking about in this whole process is with the paid petition circulator, the amendment simply says that the petitions that a paid circulator circulates must have printed on that petition that they are being circulated by a paid petition circulator as in contrast to those people who are out volunteering.    At one time there was discussion that they should disclose themselves via a badge and other kinds of things to say we are not your normal citizenry in terms of going out and looking after the best interests out of our own volunteerism but that we are in a process where we are being paid to do this and therefore collecting signatures accordingly.    So, on that petition in a contrasting color and fairly large print, 16 point print, the petition would say, "Paid Petition Circulator" on there to inform the people who are signing that petition that these people are being paid for their effort.    So, with that, I offer the committee amendment which, in essence, actually then is the bill.