

August 7, 1992      LB 7, 9

SENATOR WILL: Madam President, I move the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 9. You've heard the motion to adopt the E & R amendments. All those in favor please say aye. Opposed nay. E & R amendments are adopted.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Peterson would move to amend the bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Peterson.

SENATOR PETERSON: Madam President and members, caught me by surprise, we've evidently skipped over here. Anyway, I guess I'm ready to go. This would give Madison County a primary instead of the petition process which I think is a lot more fair. I think we deserve a primary. I was down yesterday afternoon later and talked to the Secretary of State and he said it could be done. And what this does is sets the election...they have to file by August 21st, election is September 1st, and then it would also...those that have filed they would not have to submit another filing fee in the districts that are involved. So it's just a couple of districts there that...and it's just a one-time deal. I think we deserve, if LB 7 passes, to have a primary. And if there is any question, I will try to answer them. I would ask for adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Peterson. Senator Conway.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Madam President, and members, the issue of whether to have a primary election or not was thoughtfully discussed by the committee with some of the same guidance from the Secretary of State that Senator Peterson alluded to that he got, which was, I felt, literally the opposite. The question of a primary election to be handled in the way that primary elections typically are handled, there just isn't enough time. If you look at the schedule that Senator Peterson has provided relative to accomplish this election, we are talking about an extremely short period of time not only from the time that LB 7 may be passed next week but to have absentee ballots ready within a matter of just a few days after we adjourn from this session so that any candidate would literally have to immediately file without any thought, consideration and consultation with support groups or all of the normal things you would go through. And through the Secretary