

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

May 24, 1999

LR 18

call. Before we continue, Senator Jim Jones announces that he and Pat celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary yesterday, May 23rd. And he is...has provided...the pages are bringing doughnuts to you from Senator Jones. So, thank you, Senator Jones. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Madam President.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Madam President, I move the advancement of LR 18CA to E & R for engrossment.

SENATOR CROSBY: For discussion on LR 18CA, Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Madam President. I thought I had something significant to say until my benchmate here started talking about how many doughnuts it takes before he weighed 200 pounds (laughter), and that disrupted my concentration. I said, I don't care how many I eat, I don't think I'll ever get down to 200 pounds. (Laughter) But in any event, that's...I don't mean to waste the body's time like that, I apologize. My...I need to explain my concern about LR 18CA and why I will not be voting for it. I'm not going to put up a bracket motion, but I would really prefer had this laid over until next year and gotten some more input from the public. This is a very significant step, I think, in terms of modifying the procedures for what George Norris felt was the second house, and that's the people. We do have a system here that I think does require a little bit more opportunity for the people to inject their ideas than in a state where you do have the check and balance of the House and the Senate. Now I share the concerns of those who have seen multimillion dollar efforts to change our constitution, and that is a great concern. But I am heartened by the fact that this has not been...this has been recognized and this has been rejected by the people in the case of LB 413 particularly. Very complex. Show me a proposal that's ever been better financed. And there wasn't much opportunity for people to respond, but yet they did, and they rejected it. LB 414 was also extremely well financed and was a great concern, I thought. The people rejected it again, despite the fact that it had tremendous financing. Now you can say, depending upon