

March 29, 1972

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter, did you indicate that you wanted to take up an override motion or

CLERK: on 1079 Clerk read.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Mr. President, 1079 is a bill which was heard before the government committee which I happen to be the chairman, the government committee for the past number of years have taken a great deal of interest way beyond the call of duty so to speak, in order to be sure that the National Guard in all its responsibility is amply taken care of. We have even gone to the point of having hearing both on and off the record with the entire staff of the National Guard at times when all the other law enforcement officers of this state in order to bring about a (inaudible) of the laws pertaining to this particular activity of those who would have to associate with them in the event the need arose. I am a little bit disturbed because a week ago I read in the Lincoln Journal I think it was, a statement by General Welch and being somewhat of a suspicious nature, I could read between the lines that the General had reversed himself apparently, and what he was enthusiastic about before our committee he was less than enthusiastic about the bill itself in its final form and it is my humble opinion that General Welch himself has the responsibility of the recommendation of the Governor of this state to veto this bill, if he didn't of course he did nothing in my judgment to defend it, as he had the obligation to do as result of the appearance of him and his staff before the Government Committee. Number 1, it is an acknowledged fact, and so stated by the Federal Government that probably in a time of stress when the National Guard might be called up either because of internal-external problems the efficiency of this guard is so accepted that they would probably be one of the top four or five that would be called up depending upon the emergency and how our guard fit in with the requirements and responsibility of that kind of an action. The National Guard is going to loose sometime before this year ends some what of a 1,000 men approximately 1,000 men out of the guard. They are having a great deal of difficulty replacing them for obvious reasons. Because the National Guard is no longer a half way place for young people to rest with more of a sense of security than it used to be on the draft. I have no objection to that one way or the other. These men who are now being discharged, the 1,000 or that approximate number, like military life I presume or they wouldn't engage in it in the first place. These men including officers are highly trained. They won't be available forever and a day. People by their natural characteristics loose interest as time goes on to the point once existed. I think that establishment of a national guard was one of the most important things that this legislature can do. You can not for example create for example categories of 4, 5, 6, or whatever the number might be in order to bring about the training (inaudible) in order to attract those men who are coming out of the National Guard because they are only here once, in my judgment. You must also realize that this happened, and I think it will happen, but whether it will or not is completely immaterial, and they are going to take everything out of this state except the armory.