

1 DELEGATE DELLA: Mr. President, I would like
2 to speak against the amendment. I am certainly not against
3 any minority group or anything like that.

4 Just about a year ago, the clerk in one of the
5 counties in Southern Maryland was short some \$250,000, and
6 only because of his bond I think they recovered \$100,000.

7 In our old constitution, it is spelled out
8 that the sheriff, the clerks, and everyone else shall give
9 bond before he takes office.

10 Now, when you are permitting a person to accept
11 state money, no matter in what level of government, then I
12 think he ought to be responsible to that particular sub-
13 division by having a fidelity bond accounting for the money
14 that he has taken in.

15 It hasn't been too many years ago when I was
16 an auditor for one of the bonding companies, and through
17 that bonding company we paid out over a million and a half
18 dollars due to the malfeasance of clerks of courts, not
19 only in the state of Maryland but in Virginia and New York.

20 Mr. President, if this is deleted because it says
21 it may be required by law to furnish an appropriate bond only