

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Moser.

DELEGATE MOSER: Mr. Chairman, I am a little bit surprised at the questions and the opposition in view of several facts. Number one, this provision was a specific item in the schedule of legislation, transitional legislation, which the Local Government Committee, after due notice to all members, adopted formally by actual journal vote and sent on to the General Provisions Committee or whatever committee was going to consider the provisions relating to transitional provisions. My recollection is the vote was 15 to 0, and the only change was one of style in lines 15 and 16.

Point two, it was a specific point of what the Local Government Committee intended to do with respect to municipalities.

Number three, nowhere in Article 23A does a similar provision appear. It is necessary. It is not in 23A, because it is in the Constitution. It is wholly and entirely, and notwithstanding the comments of Delegate Hardwicke, in complete accord with the provisions of the constitution and specifically with the provisions of the Local Government Article.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Clagett.

DELEGATE CLAGETT: Mr. Chairman, I do not wish my questions to be misconstrued as being opposition. I am satisfied by the answers, or substantially satisfied by the answers given by Delegate Grant and am not opposing this amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Weidemeyer.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Mr. President, so as to clear up some of the doubtful promises, I would like to ask Delegate Moser a couple of questions.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Moser, do you yield to a question?

DELEGATE MOSER: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Weidemeyer.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Is it not true that this amendment does not give any constitutional provision, but only a temporary statutory implementing provision, which must be consistent with, and not inconsistent with, the constitutional provisions of section 7.05 and 7.06?

DELEGATE MOSER: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Weidemeyer.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Is it not true that this is merely a stop-gap piece of legislation to take care of the situation

until such time as the legislature can either repeal or re-enact this provision and give the necessary authority under the provisions of section 7.07 and 7.05 and 7.06?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Moser.

DELEGATE MOSER: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mentzer.

DELEGATE MENTZER: I have a question to Delegate Grant.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Grant, do you take the floor to yield to a question?

DELEGATE GRANT: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mentzer.

DELEGATE MENTZER: In line 9 where it uses the phrase "local laws," does that not mean laws of that municipality? I wanted to be sure about that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Grant.

DELEGATE GRANT: Yes. I would mean municipal ordinances.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Hardwicke.

DELEGATE HARDWICKE: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I want to point out that this Convention has supported the final recommendations of the ad hoc subcommittee on transitional provisions consistently, and I do not think you should make an exception here.

First of all, I want to point out that the only things that we can include in this schedule of legislation are matters which are urgent and important.

Those two adjectives occur in section 17 of the implementing legislation, urgent and important. It must be so urgent and so important that they cannot wait until the next general session of the legislature.

Now, assuming that this amendment has all of the merit and all of the virtues which its proponents claim that it has, there is absolutely no reason that has been shown that this cannot wait until the new session of the legislature in 1969.

I think that the questions that have been directed toward the sponsors show that you have misgivings about it. They show that there is some difficulty in understanding it.

Let me point out that in sections 12, 13, and for around twenty or thirty pages of the existing Code, there is ample provision made for the amendment to existing municipal charters. For example, section 12