

that we have in the City of Baltimore a number of slum areas with housing standards below the normal and in the State of Maryland a number of people who cannot obtain an adequate supply of decent housing, would this not fall into the category of emergency legislation?

DELEGATE HOSTETTER: I would like to say that the legislature, if it so determined, could make it emergency legislation if they felt it was a necessary emergency at that time, if there was an emergency.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Koss would like to answer the question.

DELEGATE KOSS: I hesitate to impute to the General Assembly an interpretation I cannot corroborate. However, it would seem to me that in view of the interpretation of the word emergency that the decision on whether or not it is an emergency is up to the General Assembly. Insofar as the courts have not yet gone into it, their decision on the matter is final, but it would seem to me under past practice if they so desired to pass that as emergency legislation it would be within their authority.

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: Do you feel that under this particular language you could easily define any type of legislative bill?

DELEGATE KOSS: What language are you referring to?

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: Delegate Hostetter's amendment, "emergency law necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety."

DELEGATE KOSS: I suggest this is the whole point of this discussion. As Delegate Harry Taylor from Prince George's County pointed out before, a bill was passed which was not really emergency, but which was special. I do not know how you could, how many citizen—maybe this is—

THE CHAIRMAN: Time has expired.

For what purpose does Delegate Kosakowski rise?

DELEGATE KOSAKOWSKI: Point of order.

Are we debating the motion again, or is this reconsideration?

THE CHAIRMAN: The motion to reconsider opens the whole question, so we

can debate the issue on the merits at this time.

DELEGATE KOSAKOWSKI: May I speak on the motion?

THE CHAIRMAN: The delegate may proceed.

DELEGATE KOSAKOWSKI: Apparently many of us changed our minds as to the Hostetter amendment. I would request the Convention, the Chairman of the Committee, that we vote to reconsider this, so that it can be fully debated and properly under due process of law.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Cardin.

DELEGATE CARDIN: I would like to explain what the amendment will be when it will be offered to the Committee of the Whole. The amendment would be subject to S&E-1, on line 19, deleting "de" and the words "designated as such upon the introduction and," so it would read "special legislation as has been interpreted," which is open to any new terminology, "passed by a three-fifths vote of each House of the General Assembly, subject to referendum and not suspendable."

THE CHAIRMAN: The question now arises on the motion to reconsider. The clerk will call the roll on the motion to reconsider.

Has everyone registered his vote? The Clerk will record the roll.

There being 97 votes in the affirmative and 31 in the negative, the motion is carried.

Amendment No. 8 is now before the body—number 6, rather, the Hostetter amendment. The question now is on the adoption of Amendment No. 6, the Hostetter amendment.

Delegate Wheatley.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Would the Chairman of the Committee or the proponent of the amendment yield for a question at this point?

THE CHAIRMAN: Will Delegate Koss yield?

DELEGATE KOSS: Yes.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: My question is to the Chairman.

We have been told the language has been very often construed; could she tell us at this point what construction is given to the