

words, "emergency legislation" as it now exists? Is it liberally construed or narrowly defined in the cases to date?

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair can answer that. It has been very liberally construed in favor of the legislature, except in one case.

Delegate Hanson.

DELEGATE HANSON: Mr. Chairman, I prepared an amendment to the Hostetter motion which I know is being prepared at this time and I hope it resolves the problems between the Committee and those of us who are concerned about both the term "special legislation" and the use of the language, which seems to require that any legislation not to be suspended must be introduced as such.

This amendment, which I hope will be before you in just a minute, would say that no law shall be suspended if it contains a clause declaring it to be an emergency or a clause saying that the legislation is non-suspendable. It permits getting away from the legislative practice of simply using an emergency clause when an emergency, in fact, does not exist; but it leaves the legislature with the latitude to make a law non-suspendable, even though an emergency does not exist.

THE CHAIRMAN: Amendment No. 6 is before the Committee at this time. Does anyone wish to speak on the adoption of the amendment at this time?

If not, the Chair feels compelled to submit the vote on the Hostetter amendment.

The Chair recognizes Delegate Cardin.

DELEGATE CARDIN: Mr. Chairman, with apologies for those who think I have risen too frequently, I would like to speak for the last time against amendment No. 6.

I feel in all sincerity that what amendment No. 6 is doing is not liberalizing the power of the legislature to decide what should be suspended and what should not be suspended, but restricting it. This is what the Committee hoped not to do. We had every intention of making it broader so that something that were not an emergency in an immediate sense of within thirty days, but might be an emergency in sixty days if the court should so speak would be permitted to go into effect without suspension.

I would like to make certain everyone who votes in opposition to the Hostetter amendment knows that. A vote for the

Hostetter amendment in effect is limiting the ability of the legislature to withdraw such bills from suspension.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair would like to point out that before Delegate Hanson could raise his point it would have to be offered as an amendment to Amendment No. 6.

DELEGATE HANSON: Mr. Chairman, I intend to do so. The amendment is being prepared at this time and will be here. It is being typed.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does Delegate Hostetter oppose giving opportunity to have the amendment to the amendment prepared?

DELEGATE HOSTETTER: I am not entirely clear in my own mind with respect to Delegate Hanson's amendment. It does include the word "emergency" and "emergency law" is what I am interested in. It also includes non-suspendable as well.

THE CHAIRMAN: Point of inquiry, Delegate Hanson.

Is yours in the alternative, so would both have to be recited?

DELEGATE HANSON: The amendment to the amendment which I have drawn would permit the legislature the choice of declaring a law to be an emergency when in fact an emergency did exist or otherwise deciding that the legislation, because of its nature, though an emergency did not exist should be non-suspendable.

It would achieve both these objectives, both the one sought by the Committee and the one sought by many of us who are concerned with the failure to use the emergency legislation term.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Scanlan.

DELEGATE SCANLAN: I would point out under the rules that Delegate Hanson would have an opportunity to offer this amendment when we reach the end of all the sections. You will recall we consider them seriatim, and when the whole matter is before you for a final vote, any amendment that would have been germane at the time the individual sections were being considered would be germane at that time.

THE CHAIRMAN: This is a very helpful suggestion.

Delegate Henderson.

DELEGATE HENDERSON: Mr. Chairman, I should like to speak in favor of the