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follow the bureaucracy regardless of its location.

Taking a definite stand, Rep. Howard Cotner, D-Altus said, "...This is the first bill I have seen to do something good for the people of Oklahoma."

Rep. M.C. Leist, D-Morris, who authored the legislation which gave birth to the DEQ, argued the DEQ was doing an acceptable job.

Concluding the defense of his bill, Rep. Mass said, "I was on the study which helped form DEQ, and I voted for it then. But I was convinced it would be a one-stop shop for environmental needs; But it wasn't."

"I'm all for the environment, but I am also for common sense state government. If it costs a county more money than they have to answer to the law, what difference does it make where the EPA, DEQ, or whatever is. I'm doing this because people from southeastern Oklahoma have called on me to complain about being overrun by overbearing people."

The resolution was adopted with a vote of 56-43.

FROM: HEATHER MYERS

DATE: 03/06/96

## GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

### BARBER BILL GETS SECOND CHANCE

■(GIT) In session Monday, House members voted to reconsider HB2550 by Rep. Mark Seikel, D-Harrah. The measure applies to professions and occupations and creates the Oklahoma Barbers' Regulation Act. The need for the Act and certain of its provisions had been questioned by members in a prior session. The bill was debated again Monday on the House floor.

Rep. Frank R. Davis, R-Guthrie, asked Seikel why he wanted to create another agency.

Davis challenged members by asking if anyone could tell him exactly how many boards and commissions are regulated by the Legislature in Oklahoma. No one could.

Seikel said, "The only people who will be upset is our good friends at the State Health Department, who currently receive fees to regulate barbers."

The measure passed with a vote of 58 to 41. It will now go to the Senate for further consideration.

FROM: MARTA MCCLOSKEY

DATE: 03/04/96

### BILL ELIMINATING CABINET LIMITS FAILS

■(GIT) A bill that would eliminate the statutory limit on the number of cabinet posts appointed by the governor was defeated Wednesday in a 15-30 vote.

Senate Bill 1129, authored by Gerald Wright, R-Broken Arrow and presented by Mark Snyder, R-Edmond, would have eliminated the statutory limit of 10 to 15 cabinet posts that the governor is allowed to appoint. The bill would have also allowed each cabinet secretary to have an assistant.

Several senators objected strongly to the proposal, arguing that the measure would result in large increases in spending for cabinet posts. The measure also led several senators to express their dislike for the cabinet system in general.

"I guarantee you this will cost the state millions of dollars," Sen. Darryl Roberts, D-Ardmore, said. "We ought to do away with the whole thing and go back to the way it was established in the constitution."

Joining Roberts in opposing the bill was Senator Dave Herbert, D-Midwest City, who said he, too, has not supported the cabinet idea since its inception.

Senator Charles Ford, R-Tulsa, spoke in defense of the bill, saying its opponents were trying

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