

tried to bring it up and I'm going to write a memo to the members of the Legislature as to what they said the understanding with the Legislature would be and I believe their own words can tell us exactly what had happened. Now, despite what their words may have said or what they intended, I was left with the distinct impression and I'm telling you it's based on an impression of what was said that day, that this bill would be taken up for that half hour. There would be an attempt to vote it up or vote it down and they would take their chances. That did not occur so now we have a situation presented to us where despite what the Speaker's order and plans says about one half hour, then it would go to the bottom if it did not advance, this bill they are requesting a total of an hour and a half's time ahead of everything else, ahead of everything else. They had their first half hour. Pursuant to the motion they made this morning, they are asking for another complete hour. I think it should be clear to everybody here that the proponents of 152 will say almost anything and do almost anything to get it heard. The difference between me I guess, when I use a proposition like this is to tell you frankly that I'm going to do anything I can to stop the bill. If I can get you to take this motion, fine, and if you don't take that, I'll take another one, but I don't believe you can find the time where I told you one day I'm going to do this and then when that day came, I turned around and did something else on you. Even on my death penalty bill which meant a great deal to me, I had said I would amend it to accomplish a certain purpose. When the opportunity came I offered the amendment. So I think what we're going to have to start doing is looking at the agreements that people claim to be making with the Legislature on the floor. Now we're reaching a point, I think, where the integrity of the legislative process is at stake and not so much the individual issues. There have been allegations of incorrect or improper Committee reports. There are frequently statements about incorrect fraudulent figures being given to us by governmental agencies. Then allegations of broken promises to the Legislature. I even saw an article in one of the editorial pages where they talked about honor among thieves in the Legislature or something to that effect, meaning that you can violate your word but I don't remember how they had it put together but somehow it was made all right for certain people to violate their word. I don't think that the Legislature should give this extra time to 152. Senator Venditte has tried to indicate, although reluctantly, that if the bill does not get what he wants or the resolution, then he is going to try to get more time. That is my understanding of what his hedging was this morning but he ought to just frankly say it and since he cannot bring himself to pronounce those words for fear that his tongue might cleave to the roof of his mouth and his right arm lose their cunning, I'll say it for him. If Senator Venditte does not get what he wants with 152 on Tuesday, he or Senator Labeledz or Senator whoever made this motion to reconsider today, will offer a motion to get additional time. All of the bills will be pushed lower and I'll say it now, and I want the record to be marked that I'm saying it now for the record, there won't be any need in getting angry when the last few days come and your bill won't be