

they wish to help and continuing to afford the protection for counties that I think needs to be afforded. I had neglected to inform the Speaker of this. I thought the bill would magically appear back on the consent calendar next time around and it didn't. I appreciate his allowing us to deal with this bill at this point even though it was not listed. The bill was designed originally to help contractors who had difficulties getting performance bonds to bid projects for county governments. We have struck some sort of an agreement. I think, given the lateness of the day, rather than explaining that full agreement at this point, my intent will be to offer the committee amendments at this point and we'll get the bill advanced and deal with the more substantive changes at a later date, but what the committee amendments do is they say that the requirement for a surety bond would continue to exist on all jobs above \$10,000. On jobs below \$10,000 a surety bond would not be required. One of the two amendments we're going to offer later on raises that \$10,000 figure higher but rather than amending the committee amendments now and keeping you around longer, we're suggesting you adopt the committee amendments at this point and advance the bill on to Select File.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? The question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Withem, on the advancement of the bill.

SENATOR WITHEM: It is Senator Langford or Senator Miller's bill.

PRESIDENT: Oh, excuse me. Senator Miller.

SENATOR MILLER: Mr. President and members, I think Senator Withem explained the bill.

PRESIDENT: Just a moment, we can't hear you. Now, try it. Stand a little closer.

SENATOR MILLER: After all that, I move for the adoption of the bill.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. The question is the advancement of the