

public had concerns about and drafted this amendment. I, without hesitancy, signed on to it because what the amendment says is what I have indicated, from the very beginning, that I don't mind the total amount of my calls being revealed, I don't mind the total number of those calls being revealed. There is nothing about my expenditure of state money that I mind anybody knowing. But when it comes to the confidentiality that people call me, expect to receive, I have said and I mean it, and Senator Hohenstein in the meantime, after he got some of those calls, said he'd be there right with us, would go to jail first. So what this amendment does is to cover the waterfront. It shouldn't really be necessary for us to put this much material into the statutes, but based on the fact that there are people who misunderstand the reach of their office and will create difficult situations, this bill, LB 579, through the collaborative efforts of numerous senators, should cover all of the issues. And for this Legislature and those in the future there should not be any question about what the circumstances are under which telephone calls will be deemed confidential, which phone numbers will actually be available for auditing, and under what circumstances other types of information can be made available. So I hope we will adopt the amendment and move expeditiously on the bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Vrtiska. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Madam Chairman and members of the body. Senator Hohenstein, could I ask you a question?

SENATOR HOHENSTEIN: Vrtiska, if you can pronounce my name right, you can ask me anything you want. (Laughter.)

SENATOR VRTISKA: I'm sorry. My question is, and I have a concern about this, we're talking about confidentiality of telephone records. These telephone records that are held by the telephone company, are those available to somebody if they require, even though ours are confidential? I've only had one call, since I've been up here, that I would want...not want to reveal. Would those...is there a possibility those could be made available from the telephone company if somebody requested them?

SENATOR HOHENSTEIN: To my knowledge, not without a court ordered subpoena for specific purpose. No, they could not.