

isn't the reading that counts. That reading is not going to make the difference. The period of reflection may. Do we have the opportunity to do that with rules? Sure we do. We could pass a rule to do that. It's not the reading, but the reading is in the Constitution and you're not given the chance to change it. It is taken out of your hands. Are there good reasons for Final Reading? Absolutely. Can you still have Final Reading? Absolutely. That's the reason I put in a provision that with a mere 12 or 13 members of the Legislature, you can do it. If we want to have a rule that slows it down, yes, we can do it. And, Senator Pedersen, I'd love to be able to listen to every bill too, but practically we know it isn't going to happen. And when we read limited liability company bill last year for five hours, was there a one of you that thought that was necessary? Was there a one of you that thought that was productive? No. Did it help you catch up on constituent work? Yes. If we need more time to do constituent work we can start later in the morning and end earlier in the afternoon, we can do a wide variety of things. I suggest to you that this Constitution restricts us and it restricts us because it is archaic and old and not because it has a purpose. The purpose can still be done by rule and it is still protected by the Constitution. In fact, I was reading a little bit of history, a book about how the Legislature works written back in the 1930s and it reads like this. When the presiding officer, this is a little bit of history of the Legislature, when the presiding officer announces bills on third reading the chief Clerk takes the engrossed bills in their order from his file. The Constitution requires the reading of each bill in full at this time. In the case of long bills it is often not done. So at least at some time in our past somebody thought it was ridiculous too and they didn't read them.

SENATOR LINDSAY: One minute.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: But today we have Attorney General's opinions and nobody is willing to take the risk that their bill might be unconstitutional. The twenty-first century is a few years away. Let's at least get into the twentieth century before that time happens. I suggest to you that at least get this over to the second reading. I know the afternoon is short. Many people have other things that they needed to do today. If you're on the fence, I'd ask you to get the bill across to the second reading. It's important to do. Don't perpetuate the myth that Final Reading is helping legislation, it's not. I'd