

are going to work with us. Then they...well, as I say, I think they brought in two or three or four proposals. We finally reached a proposal that had to do with some tax on some other items. When they discovered how much this would cost, they said, look, there is no way we can go with this now, we have just got to go for a repeal of the ton-mile tax. I said that would be a breach of faith, and suggested this delay with the understanding that the record is getting clearer every day that they have an obligation and if they decide ultimately to go to court and battle this, I think they are going to lose. So, in all honesty, Fitz, both sides did work a heck of a lot trying to come up with something, and I think Senator George would back that up, because I know he spent hundreds of hours working on the subject.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: What assurance do we have now that they won't be back next year to get another postponement for another year?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Okay, that is an even better question. I have told them this is the bottom line, so to speak. I will support the one-year delay, but no matter what, I think any member that voted for a repeal next year, including myself or you or anybody else that voted for a repeal without a positive alternate solution, I think that would be wrong, and I have told them, you know, you have used up all your chips, so to speak, with the Legislature, now you are really in and you have got to absolutely come up with something because you would never get it off next year. I said, you might win this year, I don't know, but you sure as heck ain't going to get her done next year unless you come up with a positive alternative.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Simon, do you wish to be recognized on the DeCamp amendment? I would caution some of you that we have some other bills that have to be heard this morning. Senator Simon.

SENATOR SIMON: Mr. President and members of the body, I have a question of Senator DeCamp. John, I just want to follow up on what Senator Fitzgerald is saying. I don't have that much expertise in this field and I certainly will go along with your recommendation and Senator George's. Now the railroads certainly are one of the more powerful lobbies and I see this possibly as an attempt to delay it, and that next year not necessarily coming back and asking that