

want to address every one of the issues raised and the first one had to do with how the bill got out of committee. The bill got out of committee one hundred percent, one hundred percent, because we had the uranium amendment on it. That is why Senator Clark voted for it, Senator Remmers. That is why Senator Schmit voted for it and there was that clear understanding and it was stated in committee that that was the issue and that was why I was gutting the bill. Subsequent to that time, legislation was introduced on the floor by a suspension of the rules by this Legislature and a separate public hearing was held on the issue of uranium. I, personally, am happy to go ahead, happy to go ahead and deal with the uranium issue this session. Apparently from the input that came out of the last hearing, it is a more complex topic than some originally thought. That is why I am suggesting since the decision of the Public Works Committee on the issue of uranium was to delay...that that issue be delayed and not dealt with here on the floor. But now let us get to the separate subject, the bill itself. I have told you clearly in advance that after rejection, as I did to others, I intended to offer and others intend to offer amendments relating to the energy issue. That is all we are seeking to do is offer you the amendments, the arguments pro or con, so on and so forth. Now as to bad faith, if there was bad faith in what is intended, then it is surprising that at a very private meeting between Senator Clark, myself, Vincent Brown representing the oil people, they agreed to accept a compromise of three percent increase or I mean up to three percent in severance tax on oil. They had certain exceptions about stripper wells, so on and so forth. The point I am making is there was no misunderstanding on their part or anybody's part that we intended at least to offer amendments relating to the energy issue. So that is all I am suggesting we do, utilize the bill which is an energy bill to deal with the energy question this year. Now to Senator Vickers' objection about hanky-pank, this reeks of the same objection he raises about twenty-four times a day that anything he hasn't done somehow is mysterious, dishonest, dirty and bad. All things done in clandestine meetings, smoke filled rooms, with the possible exception of multitudes of secret shadow coalition meetings to cut old John's head off, all other meetings are somehow dirty and foul, and if he hasn't made the decision, then it is evil. He said the Banking Committee, Senator Vickers, for your information, it is Banking, Commerce and Insurance. The most fundamental aspect of commerce in this day and age is energy and you will someday discover that even where you come from. Even if you think you have got unlimited oil, we have got problems energywise in this country and in this state that imports about ninety-five percent of its energy, and unless we are willing to face up