

May 26, 1981

LB 544

SENATOR CLARK: The Legislature will come to order. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature I would like to ask all of you at this late hour to uphold the ruling of the Chair, that this is no time to go "Mickey Mousing" around. I ask you to vote to uphold the ruling of the Chair on the germaneness of this amendment..

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Whatever the body wishes to do is fine with me, just so we get on with it.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: This is an important decision, I would like to emphasize. I think....let me first talk about the amendment and then let's talk about the implications. First off this is a simple amendment brought to us by the Department of Transportation, I should say the Highway Commission, and all it says is that the Highway Roads Department will adopt a uniform manual traffic control devices instead of the most recent edition. Now the difference is they have a 1978 edition but every year they update it, so under the present statute they can have the most recent uniform manual they have to go by the most recent edition so it is a technical thing, it's not a major thing. It deals with the Roads Department, it deals with the Highway Commission and it's generally in the subject matter that we are talking about LB 544, which deals with the Highway Commission, the meetings that they have and it is in the same chapter as the statutes that are dealing with in this bill. Now think about this. Now how many times have we amended bills on the floor. We have done it today several times with amendments dealing not with a particular subject but dealing in the chapter in the general area we are talking about. That is not uncommon, we have had other amendments that didn't even deal with the same chapter and we rejected those. That is fine. I have no trouble with that. But this is the same chapter, it is generally in the same sort of vein as the bill as introduced and I think to reject this is a bad precedent and would be very detrimental to any sort of amendments on the floor whatsoever. I think that is an overly restrictive decision on the part of the Chair and it ought to be overruled. I would strongly urge your support for the motion to overrule the Chair, otherwise I think that you can pretty well discount any amendments to

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