

let me repeat again that this little bill, 544, which I could have voted for but I will not vote for if this amendment gets attached, had to do only with one little subject matter, whether the meetings of the State Highway Commission should always be in Lincoln or whether they could be outstate. Now we have ballooned that or we are about to balloon that into a major bill. It has not had a public hearing. We are in the last couple days of this session. There is no reason why we could not have some hearings on this in the summer and in the fall. It is this kind of process I feel that causes us to pass bad legislation and I am really surprised at Senator Cullan who hopefully is gaining more respect for the processes of law through his experience in law school, is coming back in here and suggesting that we do not follow in a meaningful way our own processes. The section of the bill, the section of the statute that this bill deals with is the section called the Highway Commission. It is the 1100 section of the statutes. Senator Cullan's amendment goes into a separate section, the 1300 section, which has to do with state highways. They are completely different sections although they are in the same chapter. Just because we have added one or two innocuous amendments to this bill already doesn't mean that we should adopt an additional nongermane amendment. It is one thing to commit a couple of venial sins but it is another thing to commit a mortal sin by attaching a nongermane amendment which is of such a scale as the one that we are looking at right now. So I would ask you to give some consideration to our process and to the time we have left in this session and whether we shouldn't be spending this time on the things that are directly before us and on things that have had public hearings and ask you to overrule the Speaker. I would remind you that yesterday the Speaker ruled that another amendment which was more germane than this one, ruled that it was not germane and he was upheld on the floor of this Legislature and we are going to look like idiots, frankly, to come around here today and suddenly say that a less germane amendment is, in fact, more germane. So I beg you for the purpose of consistency and the image of the Legislature in addition to act consistently on this particular bill and to overrule the Speaker's ruling that it was, in fact, germane. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: All right, the question then is, shall the Chair be overruled on the decision relative to germaneness on the Cullan amendment to LB 544. All those in favor will be in favor of overruling the Chair, those opposed will sustain the Chair. All right, just so that you will know...yes, Senator Newell.