

here he is. For those of you who just came in, the question is, shall LB 159 be bracketed until March 2, 1989? All those in favor will reply...did you ask for a roll call vote, Senator Conway...will vote affirmative and objection negative. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Roll call vote read. See pages 735-36 of the Legislative Journal.) 16 ayes, 19 nays, Mr. President, on the bracket.

PRESIDENT: The motion fails so the bill is not bracketed. Now, do you have anything on it, Mr. Clerk? The call is raised, to start with.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have nothing on the bill.

PRESIDENT: Okay, Senator Conway on the advancement of the bill.

SENATOR CONWAY: Mr. President and members, the decision is to take up the bill and I think, given what Senator Ashford has already alluded to, we will discuss the bill and my preference at this point then would be to move the bill over to Select File, naturally. In its present form, there has been no agreed upon amendments to date. Hopefully, we will have those amendments offered on Select File. This bill, again, is a bill that we approved as a body last year with 33 votes. It had been ironed out and the bill in its current form is exactly the same bill that we passed on Final Reading last year. So there is really...by moving it over in Select File, we are not particularly out of line with this body's decision of last year. What I think we can do at this point and my pledge to those who on inside or outside of the glass would be to continue to negotiate during the time period between General and Select File to work with any individuals who have meaningful amendments that might be necessary to make the bill even better, anything that they have come up with over the last year that would be a position in such a way that the changes that we're making in our tort litigation would be more valuable to all parties concerned. I know there may be some people in the body that have some apprehensions based on the information that they have been given. But I think we can move it over on Select File and have the debate with any amendments on Select File rather than not advancing the bill at this point. If we don't advance the bill at this point, we have basically thwarted any more movement in this area and I think it would be extremely important that we