

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, this is one time I must catch my breath. It's the Speaker's fault. I asked him was that bill that preceded mine going to come up, he said, oh, yes. So when I got to the office, going down there in a leisurely fashion to pick up some handouts, Cindy said, they're taking up your bill. I said, okay. So, here I am. At any rate the reconsideration motion goes to an amendment that Senator Labedz offered to the committee amendments. What her amendment, in effect, did was to gut the committee amendment which had become the bill. It eliminated practically everything from the committee amendment and said that the Douglas County Board would be nominated by district and elected at large. A number of people that voted for that amendment subsequently had second thoughts, had not recognized the full implications of it or its breadth, and had said that they would vote to reconsider. So I'm going to tell you why I would appreciate it if you would do that. A great amount of work went into those committee amendments, not only to require district elections, but to clear a lot of language out of the existing law that is ambiguous and contradictory. At least so it has been said by the Douglas County Attorney and the Attorney General. This language relates specifically to how representatives to the Douglas County Board would be elected. In addition to clearing up that language, a system had been put together to take the county from an at large system to a district system. It is somewhat complex and it was geared to the committee amendments.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chambers, excuse me. (Gavel.) Please, the house will come to order. It's very difficult to hear.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And, Mr. Chairman, I recognize that after the last issue and the last vote people are still up in the air in one way or another, so I'm not surprised by the movement on the floor and the discussions. But nevertheless, there are some things I would like into the record, even if the members are not paying that much attention. The purpose of LB 588 is to take Douglas County from an at large to a district system. The committee worked diligently to fashion a well-crafted amendment which, in effect, became the bill so that, as I had mentioned already, some conflicting and ambiguous language, relative to how Douglas County Commissioners are elected, would be eliminated. I had an amendment drafted that would plug into that committee amendment that would set up a procedure to move