

May 4, 1989

LB 812, 813

measure because I have had some legitimate concerns that have not been addressed at this point and I can't vote as long as there are these questions out there, and I am sorry that they have not been answered in a more timely fashion than this.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hannibal, please, followed by Senator Schmit and Senator Dierks.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Senator Withem, I wish you had been around on LB 813 this morning and the last three days when we have had about 13 minutes or 10 minutes to vote on issues out here that Senator Korshoj is saying, how are we supposed to be making all these decisions out here, but, nevertheless, they are getting plenty of votes without too much knowledge on the issue, and in spite of the fact that we are trying to suggest that maybe it isn't the best way to go. I appreciate your concerns. I believe that, and still tend to believe that you and Senator Hall have offered these concerns in good faith. I think there has been some major confusion, not the least of which has been the reporting in the newspaper by some people who very definitely had vested interests on their calculations and their concerns on the bill, and some very disputed statements made in the paper that some people would say were reversals of the earlier opinions. But notwithstanding that, it is important that the floor, at least, understands that the Daly study, the Leo Daly Company study was the independent study that was to try to satisfy the concerns that were brought up by the newspaper, brought up by supposedly engineers disagreeing on what happened. That was the study. That is what convinced the university. That is what convinced the committee, and that is what, hopefully, convinced you on the floor that it was necessary. All I tried to do was say, if there are still some concerns, let's get another one. The university tried to do that for us. We were given not very much time to do that, and the bill needs to be read, and so we tried to do it as quickly as we could. I got the information this morning. They have been working with them over the weekend and last week, and I apologize that it couldn't have come out two or three or four days ago. I am not sure it would have made too much difference because I am not an engineer. I can read this and understand it. I don't know if I could look at any calculations and understand them. The important part is, as far as I am concerned, that we have now had two independent studies, and we had some disputed things in the newspaper that other people tell you was not the most accurate reporting that could have been done, and I think most