

that the subject is the advancement of LB 761A.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President. I just want to comment as far as the...some of the problems that I think we need to be aware of here as far as a need for an A bill. While it is true that the local monitoring committees are not authorized to perform on site testing and so forth themselves, if my memory serves me correctly, I think they are authorized to contract for that, and that was the rationale for allowing Conservation Survey to get involved in this. My concern would be at this point, I guess, that I don't want Conservation Survey to find themselves in trouble here down the road as far as providing services and then not knowing how to recover their costs. There are a couple of ways this could be dealt with. We could amend the language in LB 761 that would allow them then to go back, Conservation Survey to go back to the cash fund and that money then, of course, would be billed back essentially to the money that is being generated through this whole compact process, or otherwise you could have an A bill. My preference, obviously, would be to have it come out of cash funds rather than out of General Funds, but I think it's important that we make it clear here that as I read, and I think as all of us understand, currently 761, Conservation Survey could be an entity that could be contracted for to provide certain services. And it is important that we have it clear how they are ultimately going to be reimbursed for their activities. I suppose the other option is they could come in for a deficit. Here again my preference would be to have access to cash funds rather than General Funds picking this up. I might suggest at this point that if this A bill is withdrawn, or if it is not advanced, that it would be important perhaps for us to ask that there be some kind of memorandum of understanding be developed between Conservation Survey and DEC and perhaps local monitoring committees so that we understand how this process works. And ideally, so that Conservation Survey, or any other contractor that local monitoring committees might choose to use would have access to cash funds. So it might be wise, at this point, to keep the A bill alive until we resolve that. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schmit. Thank you. Senator Korshoj. Thank you. Senator Langford.

SENATOR LANGFORD: Call the question, please.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Question has been called. Do I see five