

by the Legislature. Thank you. We are glad you can spend some time with us today. Mr. Clerk, LB 272. Excuse me, the motion is...the question is the advancement of the bill. Senator Lindsay, are you available?

SENATOR LINDSAY: I move the advancement of LB 639 to E & R for Engrossment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. A machine vote has been requested. Shall LB 2...excuse me, 639 be advanced to E & R Engrossing? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. It is, of course. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: I have already given my two speeches but I just, if you could have had your chance to have worked through this, I wish, you know, I wish there were more of you that had been through this, frankly. Only 29 of you were around when we went through this in 1986. Twenty of you weren't even around. You don't even have any understanding of the background on the issue. This has been a longstanding problem. This session, time and again, whenever the department has come in and asked for anything, you have given it to them. You have been, I think, very generous to the department this year, whether it be field offices, or other changes in the Appropriations Committee, and I know how frustrated they have been because they have been trying to keep a handle on this whole operation. But if this Legislature doesn't stick together and understand our role as the third branch of government and a co-equal branch of government, setting policy, setting budgets, setting oversight, so that we see that our policies and our laws that we pass are enacted the way we want to see them happen, we have chaos, chaos along the lines we have seen too many times over in the Department of Economic Development. I am sorry it has come to that. I am sorry that we are having continuing problems over there, but I am not sorry to say that I think we need to oppose this bill and try and maintain what controls we have. So I'd again urge you to vote against the advancement of the bill, hold the bill, and I would be willing to work on it further, if we are able to hold the bill, to see if we can make some positive changes, but this simply opens up the door of the department way too far.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion, Senator Hannibal.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am not going to take too