

in the intent of the bill. The original bill dealt with a minor size of contract, and certainly a million dollars is not a minor contract, it's a totally different issue. I want to add also that you would not be able to buy that kind of a bond. You'd have to...you'd no doubt have to put up a million dollars cash. It's easy for us to casually make these requirements on this floor and then find out that business cannot function under those kinds of conditions. I think that at the very least, as Senator Owen Elmer has pointed out, this is a major deviation from the original bill. It ought to be sent to the committee for a hearing, it ought to be approached in a totally different procedure than we are approaching. I object to the ruling based upon the fact that it is...does not address the sections of the bill contained in LB 257 and ask that the Speaker's decision be overridden.

PRESIDENT: That's a motion that the Speaker's decision be overridden. We're speaking about that at the moment. Senator Hall, did you wish to speak about that? Okay.

SENATOR HALL: Yes, Mr. President. I rise respectfully to support Senator Schmit's motion to overrule the Chair on this issue. The bonding issue, as he has stated already, is clearly, I think, outside the germaneness of the bill. And it also, from listening to the discussion, leads me to believe that a bond is an end all in itself and guarantees everything. I mean, clearly a bond does nothing more than what those who are responsible for it, oversight and regulation of it, would allow. I can just go back a year or two, to the discussion that we had, for example, on a construction project, namely the pharmacy building at the med center. All those contractors were bonded as well. The taxpayers ended up rebuilding that building, or at least the cost of rebuilding that building to ensure the safety there of a structure less than 15 years old. So those issues are...the bond itself is only as good as those who have oversight and regulation. If the issue is one of how is it going to be managed, administered or whatever, I think that, for my money, I would allow some flexibility in the operation, as Senator Landis stated earlier, so that those individuals who have a good track record in regards to running these types of facilities, as opposed to someone who basically has the ability to get a bond or require that a bond would have to be given, is basically the threshold at which someone can enter to bid. That's really what you're doing. I don't think that the nature of some of these types of facilities would allow a bond under, although...a