

into the reasons why I'm doing what I'm doing this morning, I would like to thank Senator Barrett, as Speaker of the Legislature, for putting LB 769 on the agenda every day this week. I never...and he will agree with me on that, that I never put any pressure on him, other than sending him a letter with 27 signatures to...(laughter)...because 27 senators thought it was the most important issue of the session. And never once did I go into his office and ask him if it was going to be on the agenda the next day. But due to the fact that Senator Chambers, in this morning's paper, said, Senator Labeledz, I beseech you, kill the spider, I don't know whether...who he's referring to as being a spider, but I know in my own mind who the spider is in this situation. In fact we've got about three of them on the floor. I think that it is absolutely necessary that I tell you that when anyone says LB 769 is dead, today is the day that I'm going to tell you that I can put LB 769 on the agenda every single day until we say sine die. And I will be doing that from time to time, and I'm starting with today. Chambers wasn't about to allow a vote on the issue, making good on the pledge he made earlier to hold on with bulldog like tenacity. Well, I can't compare myself as a bulldog, but I certainly can tell you that I am amazed and a little bit shocked that two or three people could hold up the session as they did. I have never done this before, but I will continue, and I promise you that this will be done anytime I see fit when anyone says this is the end, it will never be on the agenda again, how wrong you are because you know and I know that this can be done on any bill that I choose or any of the supporters choose to do. It is very, very, very important bill to me and to at least 29 others, and we do have the votes, Senator Chambers knows it, Senator Bernard-Stevens knows it, and Senator Landis knows it, Senator Nelson knows it. And there are about eight or nine senators that would like to see LB 769 go away, but it will not. I have senators on this floor that are willing to support me and, if we had to, take LB 397, which I intend to do, and any other bill that comes up that I have the opportunity. But don't ever believe that this is the end of it. It will continue on until the day we adjourn sine die. Now, to get to what I want to do. The motion I have up there will completely gut LB 397, strike all sections and insert LB 769. And I would relinquish the rest of my time to Senator Schmit.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, you have about six and a half minutes.