

Morrissey, please.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, I'm glad that you've seen a copy of the amendment, Speaker Barrett, so you can decide because on an issue as touchy and legalities as tricky that you deal with in drug testing, I would have to see the language and the way I understand it it's not the identical language that exists in the old bill, so I would have to see the language before I could even think about considering an issue such as this, so I would support Senator Hall's motion to overrule. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, I would rise to support the decision of the Chair based on a couple of things, one of them being that the amendment that has been offered is a definitional section. Already in the disqualification section for unemployment compensation benefits it talks about if an individuals misconduct was gross, flagrant, willful or unlawful, there are certain things that the commissioner can do. What this amendment goes ahead and does is define what is already in statute as far as being gross misconduct, flagrant, willful or unlawful and it just extends what those definitions are in terms of an individual's work connected drug usage and says that that sort of activity or the refusal to take a drug test constitutes willful, gross or flagrant conduct, and so it is a logical extension and it also becomes a definitional statement as to what we already have in statute and with that, I believe it is a germane amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Other discussion, please, on the motion to overrule, Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, Senator Morrissey, the amendment is in the bill book. It's an amendment to LB 315. It's AM2508 and I believe that it is germane because it deals with benefits to the unemployment compensation benefits. So I really don't see the argument that it is not germane and this way we would be able to take it up today.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Any other discussion on the...Senator Chambers.