

CLERK: Mr. President, 1146, the first item on the bill are consideration of E & R amendments.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hall, would you care to handle the E & R amendments, please?

SENATOR HALL: No. (Laugh.) Mr. President, I'd move the E & R amendments be adopted.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Any discussion? The question is the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 1146. All in favor say aye. Opposed no. Carried, they are attached. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Wesely would move to amend the bill. The amendment is on page 937 of the Journal.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay, actually this amendment, I believe, Senator Schmit was on it, or...I don't know. Let me go ahead. Mr. Speaker, members, Senator Schmit and I offered an amendment on General File, then withdrew it, and are reproping the amendment now on Select File. The amendment deals with the question, if you recall when we discussed this bill before it deals with expanding the ability of multibank holding companies in the state to have greater assets. There was a cap on those entities so that the market would not be dominated by just a few bank holding companies in the state. Well, one of the things that I have felt, and Senator Schmit has felt, and Senator Landis has felt, and others as well, is that we have a responsibility to make sure that those who profit from legislation, who profit from our systems of...economic and political systems ought to have a responsibility and accountability back to the community. And one of the fears that I have, as we expand the ability of multibank holding companies to have greater assets, is the possibility with interstate banking coming, with all the other changes that are opening up our borders to out-of-state banks and financial institutions, how will our communities continue to be served? How will we be able to have the local town, the small town continue to have that sort of local service that they wanted? Now, I'm talking about out-of-state. But, obviously, there is a great deal of concern, and I know Senator Schmit will address this, about currently instate, the problems that we're having with our rural