

apply to statements made to the special investigating committee while under oath?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Senator, as I understand the present situation, it is a crime of perjury if an individual while under oath makes a false statement to a special committee. There is a difference of agreement as to whether or not this problem was corrected after the Douglas situation. One of the reasons why we introduced the bill and why we brought the amendment before the body at this time was to ask for floor debate and I would appreciate I believe at this time your opinion and the opinion of other attorneys on this floor as to whether or not we in fact need this language or if it is covered under present statute.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: I would hope perhaps that the body can have this information copied and passed out so that we can all see it. The question I guess I've got and I can't see it on the face of it. Let me read this language and it's my third time. It's the difficulty of hearing it out loud I know, furnishes information he or she knows to be false to a special committee of the Legislature. Now it doesn't say under oath, not under oath, in a hearing, out of a hearing. As I've got it here, if I call up a member of the special committee and I tell them something which I know to be false and I have the intention to impede the investigation, I have committed the Class I misdemeanor, I think. If I go in front of the committee, I take an oath, promise to tell the truth and I don't tell the truth, I'm not sure if I also violate this section or not or if it is your intention that I violate this section. And I'm interested in knowing, Senator Schmit, whether if I was under oath before your committee, I lied to the committee, I meant to put you on to a bum trail, steer you wide of something that you shouldn't, you know, that I didn't think you ought to cover, gave you a false lead that I knew was false, at that point does this apply?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time has expired, but please answer the question, Senator Schmit. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Landis, I would hope that this would be applicable in that instance.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Crosby followed by Senators Chambers and Schmit.