

Senator Abboud.

SENATOR WITHEM: Very simply, Mr. Speaker, I am going to vote in favor of the kill motion. I think I'm going to use this opportunity to speak to carry on with the suggestion made by Senator Scofield that I think we, as a Legislature, really do need to...may take the ball away, using the analogy, as opposed to having the ball passed on. And we need to, each one of us, seriously look at this major problem that we have in front of us and begin to formulate solutions, because what we have in front of us are not solutions. I think Senator Hall is probably right about the bill not even being needed. It doesn't need to pass. We're going to have an opportunity, a little later on here, to again act as an independent Legislature, including our own ideas. My guess is we'll probably fail at that attempt also when we consider the committee amendments to LB 7. But I think maybe, more importantly, is each one of us begin to think about what we can do to bring a solution to this problem as opposed to waiting to have the solutions brought to us, because they haven't been brought to us in the year and a half, two years that we've had to deal with this. And, if we hold our breath waiting for those solutions to be brought forward, we're going to die of asphyxiation, I'm sure. So I think the proper thing to do is to kill this bill, I don't think it's needed. But, more importantly, I think it's time that we, as a Legislature, begin to formulate some solutions.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, I'd like to give my time to Senator Landis.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Landis, please.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I think Senator Hall raises some very interesting questions. And you've got to take a look in your green book to understand the point that he's making, because I think there is some soundness to part of his argument, and yet I think there is a major value left in the bill unaddressed by his argument, and I'd be interested in hearing his perspective on that as we go on. You'll see that by citing the Attorney General's Opinion, Senator Hall argues, and I think persuasively, that Section 77-1735 and the adjustments made to it in the green copy of the bill are unnecessary, that the evil that they hope to