

February 14, 1991 LB 45

too, and I am sorry I didn't get to you before the hearing today. I have concerns about the increase from 50 to 100. I would be more comfortable with the bill at least remaining at 50, maybe it should be less.

SENATOR WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Lynch. I appreciate your comment.

PRESIDENT MOUL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. I will now recognize Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Madam Chairman. I think if you will look at the bill, Senator Lynch, it says this is just for advertising. They are still going to take bids. This is just advertising. They would not have to advertise and save that fee, but bids will still be taken for anything over the 50,000. In fact, they take bids now for anything that they do. I don't know if that will help any to explain it but we are not trying to get away from actually taking bids with this bill. It is just strictly that you wouldn't have to advertise in the paper for any bids. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Not to belabor the issues, Senator Schellpeper, but if you could maybe help me just a little bit. I understand that if you advertised in the Hastings newspaper for a piece of equipment that may be \$50,000, obviously, not everyone who may be in the business of providing a bid for that piece of equipment would read the Hastings paper. If I can understand the language and why, but I am curious, do you know anything about the procedure when, for example, they do bid anything, do they have a list of bidders, do they have a list of preferred bidders or people that they would like to do business with? Do they leave anybody off who is qualified to bid from that bidders list and for what reason, if in fact, the list exists? Do you know anything about that sort of procedure in the power districts and how they do business?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Okay, they don't really take anybody off of any list, Senator Lynch. Most generally you have really about two major companies that bid on most of the things that they buy, that's Westinghouse, and GE, those are about the only