

April 5, 1991

LB 511

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Conway, on the motion to advance.

SENATOR CONWAY: Call the question, please.

SPEAKER BAACK: That won't be necessary, yours was the last light on, Senator Conway. Senator Lamb, did you wish to close on your motion to advance?

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, could I ask how many people are excused.

SPEAKER BAACK: Eleven.

SENATOR LAMB: Eleven people excused. Very difficult to operate on the floor of the Legislature when 11 people are excused.

SPEAKER BAACK: It's difficult to lecture those 11 people, too, when they're not here.

SENATOR LAMB: We do have a little used rule in our book that says we can compel those excused people to come back under some interpretations. However, I don't think anybody is going to try to do that. So, at this point, I could do...I could do another thing. You know, I could...I could do this, you know, I could have somebody enter a friendly kill motion. We could lay it over and then we could debate it for two or three hours on another day. We could do that. I'm tempted to do it, you know, because 11 people are not here. But I'm not going to do that. It's up or down right now and it's a good bill. It's my priority bill. It's important to me. It's important to the whole state. And contrary to some of my advisors, I'm going to go ahead with the vote right now. I hope that some of those people that are excused that may be within sound of my voice will come back to the Chamber, because it really is not fair when we're trying to operate with 11 people missing. And that's my problem right now. I think the bill has a lot of support but I'm caught in a...in a...with a problem here. And I understand the rules pretty well. I know what I could do. I could have a kill motion and lay it over and I probably should do that. And we could compel the attendance but I'm not going to do that either because we have not done that in recent years. It's been quite a while since we've did that. So I'm just going to appeal to all you people, come back into the Chamber and vote, it's a