

and, as Senator Bernard-Stevens knows, any bill with an A bill has to wait until the budget goes through. That balanced budgeted issue will be addressed and then we'll deal with LB 25 on on Final Reading, hopefully. I don't think that the two are at opposite ends. What this will tell the Appropriations Committee, as a matter of fact, is what the feeling of the body is on this issue. They will get some direction and some insight on how they should handle that topic in their committee as far as the feeling and the will of the body is concerned. The A bill is a modest one at best. The Appropriations Committee can address that, they ought to, that is their responsibility and then they bring it to the floor. We can touch on it in the budget. Maybe we can actually incorporate it into the budget and do away with the A bill on 25 and just advance it because it will be in the mainline budget bill. But I don't think to not vote for this issue because there is a competing issue in terms of wanting to ask more questions about it, as it sits in front of the Appropriations Committee, is an appropriate reason to vote no on LB 25 right now. I would urge you to advance this bill since there aren't any amendments on it. We've debated the topic, I think, thoroughly. There has been no argument, I don't believe, not one that has been a valid one made with regard to the need for this. If you could listen to the people who can't hear and can't understand many times the issues and the reasons why they don't have the same opportunities as others of us who have all our capabilities in terms of what we consider to be normal, it is an...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...extremely difficult position for those folks as they find themselves unable to access government programs that they help pay for. They help pay for these. They are taxpayers too. They just happen to be deaf taxpayers. They ought to be taxpayers that are allowed an opportunity to access these programs just like you and I. I would urge you to advance this bill, we'll deal with it in Appropriations. I think that's very laudable for Senator Bernard-Stevens to raise, but they are not ones that...the issues are not ones that run at opposite ends. The way our system is structured, the A bill will allow for this bill to be held up until the budget is dealt with. I would urge advancement to E & R initial of LB 25. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hall. The Chair recognizes