

ASSISTANT CLERK: Madam President, LB 750 was introduced by Senators Landis, Schimek, Vrtiska, and Preister. (Read title.) The bill was read for the first time on January 19 of this year, referred to the Judiciary Committee. That committee reports the bill to General File with committee amendments. (See AM0941 found on page 1372 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Preister to open on LB 7...on the committee amendment. It would be Senator Lindsay, I am sorry, Senator.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Madam President. I guess maybe to preempt Senator Preister, I should start with Madam President, or Honorable President, and friends all. The amendment to Senator Preister's bill, the committee amendments to Senator Preister's bill, it is actually, I guess, Senator Landis's bill, but his priority bill, these amendments do...handle three areas, three separate areas. One is throughout the bill, the bill, itself deals with liability for discharge of high-level radioactive waste. The bill was brought, Senator Landis I believe will go into this a little bit further when he opens on the bill, or Senator Preister will discuss it, but the question is under the way the lay of the land is now, high-level nuclear waste is going to be transported and, in fact, I believe in some cases already being transported, I-80 is one of those places that it is going to be transferred, as well as some of the connectors to I-80, so we are going to have high-level radioactive waste being transported through the state. Given that likelihood, this bill was introduced to handle the question of what do we do with how do we handle pull liability or potential liability resulting from an accidental discharge or release of radioactivity. The...throughout the bill the term "release" is used, and in conjunction with that, the term "threatened release" is also used. The committee felt the term "threatened release" was undefined and was too broad. Threatened, it's difficult to determine what constitutes a threatened release, and it could even be argued that the mere transportation of such waste could be considered a threatened release. So the fact that it was ambiguous and overboard, the committee did think that the language should be rele...or should not remain in the bill, so that is the first of the changes that it does, and that is to get rid of the term "threatened release" throughout the bill. The second thing is that the liability under the bill is limited by...on the original bill, here, if you look at the green copy, it adds the word "proximately" to