

the bill on page 5, line 3 and 11, and what it does by adding that word "proximately" it is referring then to liability or damage that is proximately resulting from the release or discharge, rather than any consequential types of damage that would occur without needing to be proximately close to the actual discharge. Finally, the bill adds a new section which would simply, simply alter that statute of repose to forty years. The...I thought that I could do it with a straight face but didn't. Those three items constitute the committee changes. They have...then a white copy becomes the bill, and that is simply for the ease of...ease of reading of the committee amendments, so when you refer to committee amendments, it is a white copy. Those are the changes that have been made. I'd be happy to answer any questions regarding those changes.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Lindsay. Senator Pedersen. Excuse me, Senator, Mr. Clerk, an amendment.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Madam President, we do have an amendment. It is offered by Senator Kristensen, found in the Journal on page 1372. (See AM1274.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Kristensen to open on his amendment.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. Oh, by the way, we put the statute of repose repeal in the bill, too. That was the best part of the opening of the committee amendments, and I think it is important that we begin to try to focus this discussion a little bit, or we could be here a real long time. I am not going to speak to the underlying merits of the bill, as it was introduced, but let me talk specifically and maybe we can focus the debate on Sections 18 and 17 of the committee amendments, which is in the white copy. And the concept that we are going to work on here is relatively simple, and I always try to come up with a term, you know, we fight with the optometrists and the ophthalmologists, we call it "eye wars." Senator Will and I, I don't know what we are going to call the statute of repose. I think next year I am going to bring a bill in that puts the statute of repose onto the repeal of the statute of repose, that after ten years of trying, you can no longer repeal the statute of repose. That might put Senator Will and I both out of our miseries of doing this. For those of you who have not entered into the debate on the statute of repose in the past, what, six,