

required to pass an appropriation to meet those costs. I have been attempting to read LB 371 and the proposed amendments to it in an attempt to find that estimate. It isn't there. The provisions of LB 507 provide that if no estimate is contained within the legislation that the legislation is null and void. Now when 507 was passed in 1993 the Attorney General opined that it was unconstitutional because it was an attempt to bind future Legislatures. I and others in this body said, oh posh, we bind future Legislatures all the time. We don't reenact the statute books every year. We do that all the time. We bind this Legislature through sections that deal, for example, with the Executive Board. We bind this Legislature with sections that deal with the Retirement Committee. We bind this Legislature with other provisions as well. Our response to the Attorney General literally was, oh posh. And we went on our way until today and today we are perhaps going to be willing to ignore the provisions of a law which is hardly even cooled on the statute books. I think that when the time comes I will be unwilling to do that.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Hall. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Hall. Madam President and members of the Legislature, Senator Bromm, you made a good point but people have been free during the entire time this has been going on to address any aspect of the bill they chose, and I've even done that. Senator Wickersham brought up a very interesting point and, Senator Wickersham, sometimes the only way to find out if a law is valid and the issue would be whether this one, if it's enacted, is valid or if the provisions of 507 are, as you mentioned, and I would agree with you, is to get a test. And I think there might be somebody willing to do that and the best thing would be to have 507 upheld and bring this crashing down, and then all of those who put us through this in order to get it passed can deal with that and I'm sure they will be able to because bills get stricken down. And if the one who brings the challenge happens to fail by virtue of the court saying that the provisions of the bill enacted in 1993 have no value then it's just one of those issues that would improve my education or I mean the education of whoever would make the challenge. But, Senator Bromm, let me tell you why I said it doesn't matter how we spend these two hours. If we were in a normal situation under ordinary circumstances, the two hours could be spent discussing various aspects of this bill but we