

February 23, 1996 LB 1248

no political muscle, the definition will contract and that particular claim will not fit within that definition. So rather than try to define a word which, in my opinion, is indefinable, indefinable in the context of this bill, I'm going to fashion at least one exception. By now a copy of the amendment should be on your desk, and I know there are people who would not take this amendment seriously from the standpoint of considering support for it. But I'm doing and saying what I am for the record because there could very well be a basis for challenging a bill such as this on the basis of its being unconstitutionally overbroad and vague. A bill can be overbroad and vague in its terms, even when you're not talking about the creation of crimes. Now, I'd like to ask Senator Vrtiska a question before I proceed.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Vrtiska, am I correct in saying that one of the reasons this bill is here is the cost growing out of and associated with that Ryan capital case?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Yes, that's part of it.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. And you made that crystal clear, but since I'm offering this amendment, for anybody who would look at the record, I want it established that that is one of the reasons the bill is here. I'd like to ask Senator Hilgert a few questions now. And this is what he gets, not for being gracious and giving me time, but for taking this issue seriously enough to participate in the discussion. Senator Hilgert.

SENATOR HILGERT: Yes, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I have said that in the context of this bill I think the term "abnormal" is indefinable, but I'm going to see if you would accept what I'm going to offer as a working definition only for the purpose of our discussion. An expense of a county, or of government, because it deals with more than a county, does not become abnormal simply because of the amount? Or do you think that the amount makes it abnormal?

SENATOR HILGERT: No, I don't believe on the face of it the