

being made, and the reason why I would like for my motion to consider bracketing this for two weeks to be able to be heard is that Senator Brashear has worked with a couple of other interested parties and has come up with an idea that he feels might be able to meet my concerns and meet the concerns of those that are opposed to the bill. And basically, what I would like to ask the membership is they allow a couple weeks for us to consider that and put the bill in better shape to bring back before...before you for consideration. So I would ask you to oppose the Chambers motion to bracket it till after the end of the session in anticipation that my motion to bracket it for two weeks would then follow, and I would ask your support then of that bracket motion. So I would, Madam President, ask that the membership vote no on the Chambers bracket motion.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Witek. Senator, there's no need, there are no further lights. Senator Chambers to close on his bracket motion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, at different times I think Senator Maurstad sees his bill as saying different things. If we are to continue in the effort to try to deprive innocent third parties of recovery, I'm prepared to do battle on that. Senator Maurstad's bill will hurt innocent third parties. That's what it will do. When Senator Lindsay offered an amendment that would take the question of assets of the fleeing driver out of the equation for the purpose of determining what the innocent party would receive, Senator Maurstad wanted that left in because he knew that amount would be subtracted from what the innocent third party could receive. And if that amount is subtracted, then there hangs out the innocent third party. Even if he or she recovered the full amount up to the cap of a million dollars, in some cases that is not enough to pay for the damage that they've suffered. And yet an attempt is being brought on the behalf not of the people, not the innocent people who were hurt, but the cities, the political subdivisions. Maybe this is supposed to be some kind of attempt to reduce property taxes. But if that's what it's aiming at, the amount for each person is so infinitesimally small it is a very cynical hoax. This bracket motion should be adopted. What you ought to ask yourself is if there is some form this bill could be put in which will deprive innocent third parties of some of what they can recover now, which will require them to jump through additional legal hoops.