

April 4, 1996

LB 1368

the bill and...

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Brashear, will you yield for a question.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Madam Chairman, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Brashear, to begin with, isn't it correct that what we are talking about is based on the assumption that there is going to be a merger successfully consummated between Union Pacific and Southern Pacific? Isn't that...

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Senator Chambers, yes, that the specific practical focus we brought to it, but that's...but this is not a bill for Union Pacific only. It doesn't go away.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But if it hadn't been for Union Pacific and this merger, this bill would not be before us this session, would it? Be honest.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: It's...it's very possible you're right. I mean I can't be more specific than that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'm probably right, wouldn't you agree?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: You're probably right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: There is a high probability that you are correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So let's deal only with you because you can speak for you. Would you have brought this bill if it were not for the things we just discussed relative to Union Pacific?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: I did not have it as part of my interim work and it was not on the drawing board.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Now to proceed, I had handed out articles showing opposition to this merger, but in the interest of being as objective as possible, there is support for the merger also. Do you think it's a foregone conclusion that the