

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

February 10, 1999 LB 514

SENATOR BOURNE: What my definition of unusual legal circumstance would be and yours would probably two different things.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Members of the Legislature, he is absolutely right, and on all these other issues, don't you see that what they have asked of us is to give them a group of words that can mean anything to anybody and justified going into any one of these secret meetings because, as Senator Bourne pointed out, what might be of unusual legal complexity to him won't be that way to me because it might be an area of the law that I have studied and it is duck soup for me. By the same token, there is an area that's duck soup for him but is totally indecipherable to me because I don't get it. So who is going to be the judge of what constitutes an issue of unusual legal complexity. Are we dealing with such an issue this morning? Is this issue before us of such unusual legislative complexity that we cannot grasp it?

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That we're going to have to take on faith some kind of assurance that there is nothing in this amendment designed to harm the interest of the public, but rather it serves the interest of the public to keep them in the dark, and to allow people not smart enough to do their job to go hide in a broom closet somewhere and have somebody tell them when to come out and take a vote on in public. Consider how serious this is and then support my motion if I decide to carry it to a vote.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Hilgert on the bracket motion.

SENATOR HILGERT: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I had turned my light on to originally speak to the committee amendments, but, certainly, my comments are applicable to Senator Chambers' bracket motion as well. There is a lot of confusion when it comes to the terminology which we use, and I believe that because of the process that was taken last fall to get a measure on the ballot and the money spent that this will be newsworthy for some time. One point of clarification I wouldn't mind having, if Senator Bromm could yield to a