

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Confirmation report is adopted. Before we go to Final Reading, Senator Jennie Robak would like to announce the following guests are visiting the Legislature this morning from the Columbus area--the Dale Alumni Association. They're seated in the north balcony. If you'd rise, we'd like to welcome you and recognize your presence here today. We'll now proceed to Final Reading. If members would please take their seats. Members would please proceed to their seats, we can proceed with Final Reading this morning. Mr. Clerk, LB 514.

CLERK: Mr. President, first item, 514. Senator Kristensen would move to return the bill for purposes of striking the enacting clause.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Kristensen, you're recognized.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I wasn't sure whether Senator Chambers was going to be here or not this morning. And so I filed this motion because there was some discussion that 514E is the telephone bill, and I know the Chair of the committee is going to want to talk about how important that bill is to pass at this point in time. Senator Chambers, since you are here this morning, I was going to do this just to put some things in the record. Since you're here, if you want to respond to some of this, that's fine, or ask questions. Senator Chambers added an amendment onto the bill that said the people who receive Lifeline, those are the people who would receive an assistance or a credit onto their phone bill because they are receiving some other benefits, basically it's low-income people who receive an assistance. The Chambers amendment said those people should not be charged a Universal Service Fund surcharge. That's good policy; that's in the law, and that...yes, for a few of the long distance carriers who day in and day out may not do billing, like the local carriers do it, that may cause them some...well, a little confusion on how to bill, but they can do it. Mechanically, it can be done. The bigger issue became, well, there's more things that we can do, there's more Lifeline monies from the federal government and from the State Universal Service Fund that we could utilize to give these people even more money