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LB 496

congressional mandate as well. That's where a lot of these lawsuits are going to happen, is treating somebody differently than someone else.

SENATOR TYSON: Okay. Last question, and I'll make...you can answer briefly, in view of your laryngitis or sore throat. It has been my experience that when you make a cut in the street for any purpose, the area of the cut is the first area of the street to wear and to have to be repaired or replaced. I think it's a matter of breaching the integrity, say, of an overlayment or whatever. Is there anything in LB 496 that would allow the city to collect from a company that shortens the life of a street because of a utility company? In other words, we're reaching out here, Senator Kristensen,...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Right.

SENATOR TYSON: ...perhaps a year or two years into the future.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Under this bill they would not be able to go out and do speculative damage that might happen into the future. That's the reason it's so crucial that the city properly manage, inspect, oversee that work to be done, because in the case of where you've got a brand new street, for example, and you're the first one to make the cut, you've got some new seams in there. Okay, I understand that's the reason the city needs to be real careful. You may have a street that gets tore up every other year and have multiple cuts, so how do you ever prove who did what?

SENATOR TYSON: Yeah.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: That's the reason it's so important to have, at the time they repair that, that initial discussion and that initial examination to make sure it's put back properly. But candidly, under the bill, once the city has signed off and said, yes, you've done it correctly, and they've paid those expenses, you're done.

SENATOR TYSON: Okay.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: There...there will not be the ability to