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LB 637

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Discussion on the Kristensen amendment, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I spoke one time on this...this matter, and I've been half listening to it and working on some other things, and the reason I haven't gotten too deeply involved is because I see different little gatherings on the floor of people trying to arrive at some kind of consensus, so I don't want to upset that activity. I don't have an agenda on this bill other than to be against dismantling everything that we have and substituting something cut from whole cloth. If others are working to try to meld what exists now that is of value with whatever they think may be the minimum that the federal government is requiring, I want to see that done. And before I have much more to say by way of commentary, I want to see what they have come up with, if anything. And if they can't come up with anything then I guess we'll just have a free-wheeling discussing. But as long as people are working toward that, I want to see them do it, so I would like to ask Senator Kristensen a question when he finishes his call, if he can...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Kristensen, can you yield to a question?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: I'm sorry. I had to finish that. It was important and I'm sorry.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I had said I'll wait until you finish your call, because this is not one of those burning questions. Have you all arrived at anything in the way of a consensus on any issue yet?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator, let me tell you where I think that we're at and it's difficult because you've got federal requirements, you've got state requirements over here, you've got what the locals want to do, you got what all the legislators want to do, and then way over here is common sense.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Which is where I am, and I feel very lonely, so I'm glad to hear you recognize that. (Laugh)