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Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members of the body, Senator Louden, could I ask you a question, please?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Louden, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Yes.

SENATOR HARTNETT: On the bill we just had earlier, Senator Byars' bill, was...your amendment, was this a bill that we heard in Business and Labor, I was...or not? Was this a bill? Was this introduced, this idea, as a bill? The...your amendment to this, was this a bill, or was it...

SENATOR LOUDEN: No, I never introduced it as a bill. I brought it as an amendment before the committee, but I didn't introduce it as a bill.

SENATOR HARTNETT: When this bill was introduced, I guess I missed that hearing, did the committee accept, Senator Vrtiska, did the committee accept this as an amendment? As I understand it, Senator Louden brought it as an amendment and it's not a committee amendment, I take it. It's his amendment, is that correct?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Yes, that's right. This is his amendment that he brought before the committee but...

SENATOR HARTNETT: We didn't act on it as a committee?

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...we didn't act on it because, first of all, we didn't have a full complement of people there the day that we...you and a couple of others were gone. So we decided that...and I talked to Senator Louden and told him that since we hadn't done anything with it, maybe it would be better if he just introduced it as an amendment to the bill on the floor.