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LB 962

approval?

SENATOR SCHROCK: It seems to me like it reads better the way you want to change it. If you change it that way, I think it reads better.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Schrock. And members of the Legislature, as I said, what I am trying to do at this point is to get over some of the hurdles that I see in the bill, and then get down to heavier lifting. I also think what may be happening is a possible discussion of interested parties of some of those matters in the bill that might require the different sides to give a little and maybe take a little. And maybe Senator Schrock's task committee's...task force's heart will even break a little. But when we get it all accomplished, we may have a better bill than what we have currently. I think what the bill is trying to do is of value. That's why I'm taking time to offer amendments that would, in my opinion, improve the bill. If I just was against it and thought there was no way to make it right, I could just go through here and say, strike this word, strike that word, or find ways to take time. I want to offer amendments that are valid. But I also want to use the opportunity to discuss some parts of the bill that are unclear to me, because I'm contemplating the possibility of substantive amendments. I want to try to find one of those areas. Well, I won't go into it now, because I will digress, and I will stay on that too long. There will be time enough for that when the dealing is done here. Why does it make me any difference how we write legislation? I'm just put together that way. Maybe I have a gene that has kicked into operation or, on this bill, into overdrive. But I have read statutes in the criminal code, and I wish as I read these statutes that whatever is being expressed had been expressed more clearly, because I'm unsure of what is being stated. When bills are drafted, some sentences are extremely long, and the commas which are placed sometimes confuse rather than clarify. The purpose of a comma is to tell you to pause, not stop. Also, it is designed to set apart two things which if run together would not make sense. But if there ought to be a comma and there is none, then, when two notions run together, you're not sure precisely what is being said. This amendment is not