TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

January 9, 2006 LB 542

economist. But if they were going to hire experts who would do the work of the economist, why have that person on the commission? My question to you is this: When it comes to the economist, is it your intent that this person provides guidance, information to the commissioners, from the standpoint of economics?

SENATOR BURLING: When the commission is deliberating without any additional people there, this person would have an area of expertise in economics and the economy, that would be beneficial any time that they're discussing this.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Who, if you remember or if you know, felt that an economist should be one of the commissioners?

SENATOR BURLING: Oh, I'm not for sure. I think the committee put that one on.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, that's...okay.

SENATOR BURLING: I'm not sure on that, though.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Did your green bill contain a slot for an economist?

SENATOR BURLING: No, no. It came on later, but I'd have to research to see exactly where that came from.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Burling. Senator Connealy, I'd like to ask you a question, if I may.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The first one: Are you a member of the Revenue Committee?

SENATOR CONNEALY: Yes, I am.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Do you recall whether it's the Revenue Committee which decided that an economist should be one of the commissioners?