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LB 76

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legislating process in that way.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Well, and I appreciate that point, Senator Chambers, because, you know, if you take a...I mean take a bill like the election bill this morning, which was probably about a five hundred page bill before they single-spaced it. Staff prepared a summary of that bill in the initial stages, on General File, and that summary alone was about eighty pages. And if it had been...And it was done in chart style. If it had been a narrative style it would have been probably a hundred and fifty pages, staff tells me. And then it would have had to have been revised on Select and Final...for Final. And it does give staff a great deal, probably, of power, or latitude, or whatever, and it places an awfully heavy responsibility on them as well. So maybe your suggestion is the best, just to eliminate the need for the summary and leave it up to the body to make the rules. I think it's going to be difficult to make rules that cover every kind of bill and every kind of situation. But I think summaries are helpful. I would, personally, like to have a summary on a bill like the election bill that maybe doesn't go through it detail-by-detail, but tells about the major changes and the purpose of the whole recodification and those kinds of things would be helpful. So I guess I am supporting what you are suggesting, to strike that from Senator Kristensen's proposal. I do like Senator Kristensen's proposal better than what we have adopted on General File, because I believe the wording in that one was that we should have a thorough, a thorough summary. And I think that...you know, what's a thorough summary? That would be very difficult for people to interpret and to do. I also like the concept that Senator Kristensen has used here, and that is we start from the philosophy that we read every bill and we have to vote in order not to read rather than starting from the other premise. And I think that there are times when we could suspend reading. I want to...I would hazard a guess that nobody in this body was sitting and reading LB 76, this morning, as we spent three hours, nearly three hours reading it. So I think there are times when we could easily dispense with that, but yet for the main part I'd rather not dispense with Final Reading. So I like this approach. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, Madam Chair. There are about four points I want to make rather quickly, it's a rather eclectic set of