

indefinitely postponed, mostly at the urging, I believe, of the State Fire Marshal saying that the bill was not needed. Senator Marsh believes that the bill is needed. We've talked with the Fire Marshal, and we've talked with the volunteer fire fighters, and we've talked with the oil industry. What we've tried to do is come up with a compromise that would allow this problem to be solved and not, in any way, injure the present policy. What the amendment that we are going to ask you to bring the bill back for does is it doesn't deal with the main part of the original bill, LB 383, which Senator Abboud sponsored, and I co-sponsored with him. But what this does is try to correct a change in the law that was supposedly and admittedly inadvertent (sic). About two years ago, in a housekeeping bill dealing with these storage tanks law, there was some language taken out that was purported to give authorizing language to some rules and regulations dealing with underground storage tanks. The rules and regs. are in place, right now, that deals and does everything that this amendment is purporting to do. But, because the authorizing legislation was inadvertently removed from statute, the county attorneys, in some cases, feel like there is no way to enforce a rule and regulation and force a violator into compliance, or they at least say that they could not bring a case against them, a suit against them for violation because there is a real problem as to whether this rule and reg. can be authorized because the legislation that was authorizing it has been removed from the books. So when Senator Marsh offered the amendment on Select File, the people in the oil industry, and in the retail gas station industry and such were very concerned about what it might do to existing situations with regards to aboveground storage and underground storage tanks dealing with heating oil, kerosene and other flammable liquids. So we had a meeting and we offered to invite anybody that was interested between the parties. The amendment that you see on page 1625 is the result of that particular meeting. What it does is it reinstates the law that was on the books up until two years ago, and that law that was on the books two years ago had a grandfather provision that said that if you had some tanks, if you had some things before 1959, I believe, that you were not affected by that new legislation. That was one of the major problems with Senator Marsh's amendment at that time, according to the oil industry people, was that without that we would be in a situation where we would be forcing a lot of things to happen that may be very harmful, economically,