

LB 1250, as well as the appropriation bill. I would suggest those of you who want to run the chance, those of you who want to run the chance of some very difficult and perhaps even chaotic conditions becoming a fact over the next two years, then I would suggest you just kill 1250. Then I'll wash my hands of it. I've spent three years trying to put together something that was equitable to both sides. It is almost impossible, but there I believe we are getting closer. The bill is designed, no other purpose, to preserve the right but structure something that will be acceptable, or at least reasonable, to all parties concerned, which means the state, and that is the taxpayers and the employees who are taxpayers and citizens both as well as employees. So I would urge that you would not bracket the bill, that you allow it to advance. And if you want to kill it later on, fine, but that would be a straight up way to do it. But if you want to preserve the right for negotiations, then I would suggest that the provisions of 1250, as amended, which incidentally does permit the annual...addressing as an annual contract for next year because of the biennial sessions. That problem that Senator Landis suggested will not exist because of the committee amendment. It was a concern, but it does not. So I would hope that you will reject the amendment...or the motion to bracket.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Wesely, then Senator Barrett, DeCamp, Lamb, and Hoagland will follow. Senator Wesely, please, on the motion to bracket.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President, members, I would support Senator Warner and the Appropriations Committee at this point and ask you not to bracket LB 1250. It is not because I completely agree with some of the concerns that they have. I think they are legitimate though, in terms of trying to move forward and hold in place, at least for another year, the situation that we have so that we can identify how best to handle the circumstances involving negotiation through the bargaining process. We are faced now, this is the second session we've had it before us. We tried during the interim to do something. I worked with Senator Barrett on the Business and Labor Committee as we met with the Appropriations Committee and we kind of deferred over to the administration, and we really didn't see the results that we had hoped for. So it seems like it is back on our side of the fence now to try and work