

extends beyond 15 minutes, the debate did not extend beyond 15 minutes, and the introducer is not closing, both of those conditions need to be met. I do not believe that the introducer was recognized to close before the 15 minutes expired, so it would be my sense that the bill is no longer on the agenda and we can proceed to the next bill.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. That will be the format that we follow. We turn now to LB 469. I raise the call.

CLERK: Madam President, 469, a bill by Senator...by the Urban Affairs Committee, excuse me. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 17 of this year. It was referred to the Urban Affairs Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending by the Urban Affairs Committee.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Madam President and members of the body, Senator Landis has bills dealing with banking issues, kind of the...and Senator Wesely with the health issues, I have issues dealing with natural gas every year, issues. (Laughter.) So this is our annual natural gas issue dealing with natural gas problems. Every year we, since I think Senator Landis led a charge a few years ago to put it all together, we have...this deals, and this deals with rate hearings again. And what it does is allows where two or more rate areas served by the same utility are conducting rate hearing areas on the same date. It authorizes all the affected rate areas to conduct a single consolidated rate area hearing at one site by videoconferencing when both utilities and municipalities which have received loans from the state to pay for the conduct of the study of the rate requested. The bill also specifies a proceeding must be made for at least one remote site at each rate area participating which interested persons may view the proceedings and participate as witnesses. The bill also requires that even though a joint hearing is held, a separate record conforming to the provisions of the act must be created for each rate area. The next area, I'm not going to talk about it, was provisions of LB 738, I think there's an amendment to strike that out of the bill from Senator Wickersham, so I'll just simply...that was kind of what the bill did. What the amendment does is it deals with notification. It requires a utility engaged in a rate