

SENATOR KEYES: Well no, except just to say that all this is going to do is make certain that minor maintenance jobs and minor construction jobs can be handled by the contract... or by the department, but when you get into a job that's more than that...to keep the state out of the construction business, all we want to do is let the state hire employees or contract to have the job done. We don't want it being done by the people that are working for the state. We're not putting the state in the construction business. We do feel that they can do minor jobs. So I certainly support it.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Cope. Senator Cope wishes to speak to the bill itself. Senator Stoney, did you...Senator Labeledz, do you wish to speak to the amendment?

SENATOR LABEDZ: Yes, thank you, Mr. President. I approve and highly support Senator Schmit's amendment. This would simply allow the agencies to use their own work forces on projects under fifty thousand, even if state agencies are allowed to design their own projects up to a hundred thousand in costs. His amendment would harmonize the state policy with the University policy as established last February. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Murphy, do you wish to speak to the amendment? The Chair recognizes Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: A question to Senator Schmit.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, will you respond?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, Mr. President.

SENATOR MURPHY: Your prohibition under this amendment is what?

SENATOR SCHMIT: My prohibition limits to fifty thousand dollars the construction projects that can be undertaken by an agency's own work force.

SENATOR MURPHY: Is this going to get into the involvement with say Game and Parks, or Highway Department?

SENATOR SCHMIT: No, the Highway Department is specifically excluded from it. Game and Parks, if they get over...if they get in excess of that amount, they would have to have bids and have to have it constructed by a construction company.