

March 8, 1979

LB 119

There is a lot more in that than that. That is an extremely costly error and the ratepayers are the ones that are paying for it in spite of the fact that somebody said the rates didn't go up. The \$36,000,000 belonged to someone and I suspect it was the ratepayers and they picked it up. I think this provides for reasonable planning. It is amazing to me, Senator Lamb, that of all the bad amendments that you have brought forward that now you have probably one of the best that I have seen and I certainly want to support it and say it is an excellent idea.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Clerk has an amendment to the amendment. Clerk, read the amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Koch moves to amend the Lamb amendment. In line 11 after the word "it" strike the word "may" and insert the word "shall".

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I concur with Senator Lamb's intent, however, if we really want to make it a matter of public record I think we should say "shall" hold the hearing. If we use the word "may" they can, as I understand that if they deem desirable, proceed to do that but in some cases if it is a very delicate situation they may wish not to hold that hearing because there may be too many issues that they do not want to publicize. So I would suggest that we make it absolutely mandatory, they shall hold a hearing and then I would accept the amendment and compliment Senator Lamb for that proposed amendment. Thank you. I ask for the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the Koch amendment to the Lamb amendment to LB 119. We have several lights on. Senator Kelly, do you wish to speak to the Koch amendment? Senator Kremer, do you wish to speak to the Koch amendment?

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, I rise to support both the Koch amendment and then to the Lamb amendment. Now something is happening that is placing a lot of distrust on the part of the customer using electrical energy today and it is going to get worse. I don't think we have yet seen the end of the cost of power and anything that we can do to build confidence to the ratepayer, we ought to do it. I think there has been a lack of public information and certainly by exposing what is going to be attempted to be done is certainly worthy of public information. Senator