

March 21, 1980

LB 873

road to be built according to the existing roadbed which is now dust and gravel so that it won't cause the environmental damage that the current laws are causing. Indeed the position of the Department of Roads is that they can't build this road except to the higher classification, Senator Kelly. They are not permitted by state law to build it except to seventy mile an hour classifications which doesn't make sense in this particular situation. Senator Keyes has lived with that situation for years. I have been down there and visited and I can tell you there is no point in building that road to seventy mile an hour classifications when we can build it to thirty-five mile an hour standards and do just as well. So this bill is permissive. This bill is to give them the authority to build the road according to the lesser set of qualifications so we can get the road built without doing the environmental damage and the lawsuit can then be dismissed and go away and that is our specific intent in introducing this bill is to get that particular road built. Now it will also permit roads in approximately 200 miles of other areas in the state that will satisfy these standards set up in subsection (4). Now let me conclude, Mr. President, because I am getting at the end of my time. Right now we are arguing some amendments. We are arguing some amendments that will drastically prune the bill down just to deal with this new classification. We would ask you to adopt those amendments, and if there are any more questions on the bill itself, why Senator Keyes or I will certainly try to answer them.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Hoagland was closing on his amendment. The question before the House is the adoption of the Hoagland amendment. All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting no.

SENATOR CLARK: Have you all voted? I am not going to wait all day. I am going to call the vote. If you want to vote, get over and vote. Once more have you all voted on the Hoagland amendment to 873? Record the vote.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: I hate to ask for a Call of the House, Mr. President, but we may have to to get some people in here because we need 25 votes to adopt these amendments. This is just to adopt the amendments to whittle the bill down and strike out several of the sections that are currently in it.

SENATOR CLARK: A Call of the House has been asked for.