

March 31, 1980

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short weeks conditions changed so that the major opponents of the idea became major proponents of it. Unfortunately as I explained to them, the time is very late and the possibility of enacting that was very slim. What I am telling you now is this, that as wild as Senator DeCamp's amendment may have seemed to some of you, it may seem totally realistic when you have to drive around thirty or forty miles because a bridge is out. There needs to be lead time...

SENATOR CLARK: You have thirty seconds left.

SENATOR SCHMIT: There needs to be lead time in planning highway construction. We need to give our Department of Roads some flexibility and we need to give them some funds. I think it is high time we give them both. I hope that you adopt the amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask Senator Landis a question if he is here, or two. Senator Landis, the question has to do with your portion of the amendment. It has to do with the definition of public purpose organization on page three of your amendments.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mmm, hmm.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And I guess I kind of think this definition needs a little more work or at any rate a little explanation, a little legislative intent. It says that a public purpose organization, and I take it this is the organization that could be running this bus system with the approval or the transportation system with the approval of the county or city, shall mean any incorporated private not for profit group or agency approved by the county or city as capable and responsible for providing public transportation services. Now my first question is, if an organization comes to the city or the county and would like to be approved what do they have to show?

SENATOR LANDIS: Well they have to show that, number one, they are capable and responsible for that and that they have the means of doing so. The power to approve or not approve is, according to this language, absolutely with the city and county. There is no review mechanism and frankly in discussions with Senator Johnson just a moment ago, we were discussing as to whether or not there was a need for additional controls there or not. This is the language, in essence, of LB 704 and I am personally satisfied the cities and counties can do that task of