

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, I guess I would ask the question, should we do away with the Court of Industrial Relations? See, other states don't have the Court of Industrial Relation. They have binding arbitration. Now, what we're saying in this bill, have both of them. Why? Why have both of them? You know, it doesn't make a bit of sense to me. We have a system in place that seems to be working well, but if we want to change the system we have, let's not have a dual system, let's do away with the Court of Industrial Relations. I would ask the supporters of the bill, would you be supportive of a move to do away with the Court of Industrial Relations in the same bill? It just seems logical to me that we should not have both those systems which will be getting in the way of each other. I just can only say that I don't think this body has studied this issue enough to know the ramifications. I would ask that it not be advanced.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler, please, then Senator DeCamp, then Senator Abboud.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I feel like I'm fighting that old propaganda technique, the one that says, if you repeat a lie often enough, people will believe it. We are not duplicating, doing away with, circumventing or otherwise dealing with the Court of Industrial Relations. I wish to repeat again that the Court of Industrial Relations deals with collective bargaining contracts, deals with the terms that go into collective bargaining contracts. This arbitration agreement is not designed to deal with that. It is designed to deal with, if you will, the maintenance of contracts or disputes over contracts that do not go back to the CRI (sic). Say, for example, we make up a contract, collective bargaining agreement, and let's say that we can't reach terms on our collective bargaining agreement. Well, that goes to the CIR. Okay? But let's say that we do reach terms on it and we put in place an agreement and then on down the line a year later there is a dispute and somebody says, I get six days vacation here and they say, no, you only get four days vacation. All right, in that situation ordinarily it goes to the district court. What we are saying in those situations now that are not CIR situations, let's not go to the district court, but let's give folks a chance to go to arbitration if that is what they want to do by entering into contracts that contain a provision to arbitrate. Somehow, I