

SPEAKER NICHOL: Please go ahead.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay, the committee amendments have basically two functions involved with them. The first deals with changes in the actual intent and language of LB 965. LB 965 in general deals with a question of the structure of the Department of Economic Development. The first set of amendments that are incorporated into these committee amendments deal with the question of how that department will look. These committee amendments would codify the department into a number of different divisions dealing with a number of different subjects, and I can go through those, but if you will look at the bill book, you will see those listed. Oh, here is Senator Landis. I would be happy to defer to you now, David. I just started in on that. Do you want to go ahead?

SENATOR LANDIS: Excuse me, I was off the floor because I...

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...you couldn't have moved through 311 that quickly. Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, LB 965 has committee amendments and I have passed out a section by section review of the committee amendments to each of you and it should have been just now delivered to you. And, in essence, the committee amendments become the bill by utilizing portions of economic development measures that have been heard by either our committee or others and which are incorporated to move into one package some of the suggestions that have been made elsewhere. There is in Section 2, for example, the creation of the Development Commission, and it expands some of the purposes of the department and that commission, and it also has an appointment by the Commission on Economic Development for the Director of that department with the consent of the Governor and the Legislature. The director serves at the pleasure of the commission. The salary is fixed by the commission. There are 17 voting members on the commission appointed by the Governor, five from each of the Congressional Districts, plus the Governor and the Speaker of the Legislature. There is a five year term to the members of the commission. There is meeting requirements. There are the statement of the divisions of the department. They include Small Business, Recruitment, Travel and Tourism, Community Development, Telecommunications, and the