

about that.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute, please.

SENATOR HABERMAN: I think I've said about all I can say. It boils down now to Senator DeCamp says the votes are locked, maybe there are 21, 22, or 23. I'm glad he can count that way. But some of you still can do this, you can pass or you can say no and we can hold the bill, and life will go on just the way it is, but we could save a life, we could save a life is what we could do. So I ask you not to advance LB 807. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Chambers, then Senator Wesely.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, this is one of those bills that makes me think about various periods in American history when the activities of certain money groups and corporations caused changes in the fundamental document that governs this country, namely the Constitution. Now the U.S. Senate, originally, was elected by legislatures. Land was given wholesale to railroads, not because they were loved, but because they had the power to control elections. They could determine who would get in office and who would be thrown out of office. By controlling state legislatures, they control the U.S. Senate because they are legislators and they owned legislators. Some legislators may have had UP written on them, or Burlington Northern, or the Atchison, Topeka, and the Santa Fe. These are the real tall ones like my good friend beside me, not that he does that, but he had to have a lot of protoplasm in order to get all those names on him. But when they controlled the U.S. Senate they also controlled the presidency because these senators wielded tremendous power in the states from which they came. They ruled the smoky back rooms. They told the people how to vote. They were wart healers and they got the vote out for the individual they wanted to be president, and that president was just a figurehead. There was a period in history when certain people sat in the office of president and nobody paid attention to them, nobody. These individuals took their orders from the powerful senators. There was so much corruption, and the railroads were an intimate part of it, that journalists became outraged. Reformist groups became outraged, and finally it trickled down to the point where the people were outraged, and the