

also because I think a lot of the amendments really don't touch to the real heart of this particular measure. And with that, I would prefer to return the bill back to committee to have these amendments attached. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I want to thank Senator Abboud for bringing up the issue. I think it is important and I would ask you to listen. And I know that there are those here who are concerned because we have worked for a long time. Senator DeCamp says, the committee did nothing. The committee worked a long while. There was a study. The study resulted in a bill, 1119. That bill was reported to the floor also. I will tell you, very frankly, it has amendments which I do not support either because I could not get the bill on the floor in the manner in which I wanted it there. All you who have served in my position know that that will happen to you once in a while, and I would have to say that I have some very gifted members of my committee who are perhaps a little more adept at getting their way than I am and so I have to recognize that. But we have several methods whereby we can correct the deficiency. Number one, as Senator DeCamp, or, pardon me, as Senator Landis has said, send this bill back to the committee. It would probably for all practical purposes be dead, if that happened. Number two, you could go through the rest of the motions and then you could...you would, hopefully, adopt the amendment that I have provided which is essentially LB 1119. That has this drawback. There are people who have been writing letters to all of you opposing LB 835, and if we adopted the amendments that I have proposed, then those of us who have been opposing LB 835 will be in the position of supporting it. And those of you who have been supporting it, some of you may be opposing it, and you have a little constituency problem there. But it will be far less of a constituency problem you will have than if you adopt LB 835 in the original form. The third alternative and the last one, one which I hesitate to suggest to the Speaker, is that LB 1119 would come out, come up for discussion, would strike those committee amendments, and then we would adopt the new amendment which is essentially the original, the original 1119, which is a clean bill. It is a bill which provides for orderly deregulation as the Public Service Commission is satisfied that competition does exist. I think it is a very, very important thing for you to remember. Again, I do not feel