

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Would the committee escort the Governor from the Chamber. We proceed with item 8 of your agenda, General File. LB 193.

CLERK: Read title to LB 193. There are committee amendments offered by Senator Warner's Appropriations Committee.

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner, do you want to discuss the amendments? Chair does recognize you for that purpose.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I move the adoption of the committee amendments. Essentially the committee amendments are in seven different items. One, the first two amendments clarify the limitation of the performance review to state agencies on page 2. On page 3, line 8, it is clarified that those programs which state government provides state aid for local purposes, that they also are included. But there is a clarification that those instances where any agency or local state aid program is to be reviewed, that the committee will select, on a selective basis, which ones are to take place. I think maybe Senator Bereuter has an additional amendment to clarify that provision so that there would not be an unnecessary amount of paperwork with local entities. Page 4, there is language reinstated that would continue the cooperation, periodically, with the auditor of public accounts where appropriate. Clarification of striking words to strike "audit" put in "performance review" where is appropriate. Reinstated in language, at the bottom of page 6 and the top of page 7, that language inadvertently struck in original draft. It was language that permitted the auditor to do certain audits for political subdivisions of the state. It was merely an error in the auditing. On page 8, again there are corrective amendments so that the name of the Performance Review Committee would be the Performance Review and Audit Committee. Again the consistency of the language to include state aid programs. With that explanation, since the amendments are essentially clarification, Mr. President, I move their adoption.

PRESIDENT: Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I have a series of questions in regard to the new Performance Audit Committee, in terms of local subdivisions of government. Senator Warner, you are familiar with most of these, so maybe you could answer my questions. Is it our intention to see that state aid to local subdivisions are spent in a way that we determine it should be by what they're supposed to be doing with the job? Let's take schools. What are the requirements for schools to get state aid money?

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Lewis, Senator Bereuter has an amendment to clarify this. Perhaps he should address the question. Generally, the language, as far as the committee amendment, is only so that if any review of whatever nature was appropriate that it was within the language and was possible to do it. It is not the intent, in the language which I think Senator Bereuter has further clarified, to be assured that there is no additional reporting forms or whole batch of this kind of paperwork that would be generated automatically from this program or any additional work on the part of local governmental subdivisions, just as a matter of practice, but the opportunity that in the event that there is something the Legislature would have through this Performance Review and Audit Committee the