

SENATOR PAPPAS: Yes, Madam Speaker, colleagues, mine is a simple amendment. On Section 2 of Senator Vickers' amendment you delete "Executive" and insert "Agriculture & Environment", and what it does is take out the Chairman of the Executive Board and inserts the Chairman of the Agriculture & Environment board on the committee. Then after line 8, "and a Chairperson of the Standing Committee and three members of the Agriculture & Environment Committee." The purpose of this, most members of the...or a lot of members of the Agriculture & Environment Committee are also members of the Education Committee, plus it puts back into the hands of the people this deals directly with and that is mainly the agriculture and the agriculture issue and I would like to see this amendment adopted.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Well, Madam President, I guess I rise to oppose the Pappas amendment. I understand what Senator Pappas is attempting to do and I think Senator Pappas is looking at this as an issue only as it relates to veterinary medicine. But I look at this as a much broader issue. I look at this particular amendment as an attempt on my part to say for all of higher education, that we need to start looking across state lines and it certainly was not restricted to veterinary medicine or any other area of education having to do only with agricultural related areas. So I guess I do not understand why Senator Pappas would want to have necessarily members of the Agriculture Committee or the Agriculture Chairman on there if it might, in fact, be an agreement reached to provide dentistry or occupational therapy, or some other area of medicine. It would appear to me that at that point it ought to be the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, perhaps, and that was the reason I drafted the amendment as it was drafted. Now I guess I think that because there are many areas and it could be an area that would have nothing to do with medicine as well. It could be some high tech area and perhaps the Chairman of the Business Committee should be on it, or Banking and Commerce Committee. And I think that that would be an appropriate place and I believe that is what the amendment as I have it originally drafted would say. I understand Senator Johnson's points about the fact there are only four members and I would not be adverse to saying that they couldn't make a decision unless it was approved by the Legislature, but the reason I did it that way is because I