

May 17, 1985

LB 401

be truthful and honest, and not as a result of that truth and honesty lose their income and hurt their families. I don't think that is...that's bad. This reconsideration motion deals with the Beutler amendment, which I think is a compromise that many of you feel comfortable with. We're asking your support to move to reconsider and allow us to place that amendment on. Hopefully your fears will be calmed as a result of that. Senator Landis, I'd like to give the rest of my time to you. He has information about all the many other states that already have legislation like this.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Landis, please.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, I'll make a very brief listing. Michigan was the first state with a whistle-blower act in 1981. There are 19 other states that do this. I don't think state government has ground to a halt under a new social order in Connecticut, Indiana, Illinois, Delaware, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, New Hampshire, Oregon, Oklahoma, Washington, Wisconsin, Rhode Island, Texas and others. It is simply there to protect employees who want to help make state government more efficient. I think we ought to help them do that. I'll accept the body's notion that the bill is not in proper form without the Beutler amendment. I'll support the Beutler amendment. I understand the body giving me that information, that clear message. I hear the message. I'll vote to support the Beutler amendment. I hope you'll reconsider.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is, shall the bill be reconsidered...shall the amendment be reconsidered? All those in favor of reconsidering vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 10 nays on the motion to reconsider, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The motion to reconsider passes.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler would now move to return the bill to Select File for specific amendment. (See Beutler amendment found on page 2364 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler.