

amendments pending.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator McKenzie, the E & R amendments.

SENATOR MCKENZIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would move the E & R amendments be adopted.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The question is the adoption of the E & R amendments. All in favor say aye. Opposed. They are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, I now have an amendment from Senators Schimek, Lynch, and Hudkins, AM3659. I have a note that they wish to withdraw 3659 and substitute, therefore, AM3736. (See pages 1315-16 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: There's been a request by the introducers to substitute. Hearing no objection, we will proceed to do so. However, it looks like, Senator Schimek, you're at your microphone. If I could make a couple of announcements of guests before you begin. Senator Moore, Senators Moore and Bohlke have 12 students from the Central Community College in Hastings and their instructors in the south balcony; and Senator Lynch has under the south balcony a constituent and friend, Gene Williams. Senator Lynch wanted us to indicate that Mr. Williams' son, Gene, has played with the Miami Dolphins football team, and he is now with the Cleveland Browns team, and I am sure Gene, Sr. is a nice guy too, so, Gene, if you would stand and be recognized. We also have Senator Bohlke's son, Jason, under the north balcony. Senator Fisher has guests, former Senator Ralph Kelly and Dr. Walter Luers, both from Grand Island, so if you folks would stand. Senator Schimek, if you would stand and be recognized, we'd be happy to welcome you as you introduce your amendment.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I am standing, Senator Withem. Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. The amendment that is on your desk, AM3736, is a substitute for one previously submitted and the reason we asked to substitute it is because the Fiscal Office told us we needed to add that last paragraph. Now, I'll, first of all, explain why. This is an amendment that would add additional staff above and beyond what the Appropriations Committee had recommended, and this language in the paragraph at the bottom simply puts a cap on the number of FTEs, and how much we can actually spend on them, and that differs from that in the previous paragraph because it does not include benefits, as the