

power districts so that responsible bidders will have a chance to negotiate with the power districts for the best possible contract for the rate payers of that district. That seems reasonable to me because there was a great deal of concern when companies in Nebraska don't even know about potential contracts and haven't even an opportunity to bid on them. I am not saying, in fact, that simply because they are a Nebraska company they should have the bid, but, in fact, what I am saying is they should have a chance to advertise...to bid, to negotiate and to come up with the best possible offer that they can, and if they are responsible and capable then I think they should have that opportunity to make that effort. Now the wording in this amendment is not to the satisfaction of everybody, however, it is clear that the general intent is one which is agreeable to most everybody. We are going to work on the language specifically on this amendment later in the day to try and take care of everybody's specific problems, but I urge the adoption of the Vickers amendment and would encourage you that if there are any particular concerns you have, that perhaps on Select File we can deal with those concerns.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion on the Vickers amendment to LB 34? Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Vickers, if I could, just one question. With regard to what is in the public interest, if they make a determination that it is not in the public interest to have sealed bids, then under the amendment they don't have to...they are not required to have sealed bids. Is that correct?

SENATOR VICKERS: If it is not....will you ask that question again, Senator Beutler?

SENATOR BEUTLER: If they make a determination that it is not in the public interest to have sealed bids, they are not required to have the sealed bids. Is that correct?

SENATOR VICKERS: That is correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Would a general philosophic belief that it is cheaper for the public to not have sealed bids in a specific situation be considered in the public interest?

SENATOR VICKERS: I think it would have to be impractical as well as not in the public interest, it would seem to me. Now impractical or not in the public interest would be if