

I consider it a friendly amendment although I am not sure that the sponsors of the bill agree to that because I think that as was brought out at the hearing and as Senator DeCamp mentioned this morning the concern has been primarily with NPPD in regard to some of these contracts, that the other power districts have operated in possibly a more open manner and that since the agreement was made with NPPD since the other power districts have not been a part of the problem, I am attempting by this amendment to take these other power districts out of the requirement which is sort of cumbersome in regard to the advertising for some of these contracts. I would welcome comment by Senator Vickers and Senator Wesely in this regard. I'm not sure they are supportive of this amendment but I do consider it a friendly amendment because, as you well know, some of the other power districts are making an attempt to kill the whole bill. I don't think this whole bill should be killed. There are some things in there that are beneficial to the districts and Senator DeCamp alluded to those this morning and they refer to the situation where the bids can be rejected. I think this is basically a good bill. I think parts of it are applying to more power districts than need to be and so I offer this bill in that regard, this amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: We are speaking to the proposed Lamb amendment, Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, well first of all I think I should indicate that I appreciate Senator Lamb's offering his friendly amendment, however, in private conversations with Senator Lamb, as he well knows, I do not necessarily consider it a friendly amendment. I think perhaps there have been some misunderstandings as to what LB 34 does and particularly what Section 2 of LB 34 does. Section 2 of LB 34 in the Final Reading copy simply says that if a district is going to enter into a contract or have any work done for maintenance repair, reconstruction, remodeling, building, alteration, construction and so forth, that a procedure needs to be followed and that procedure is simply this. If a sealed bid can be let, if a known amount as far as dollars to be expended is known or can be certified to you by engineers, then the sealed bid process should be used and the rest of the...if it is over \$50,000. Now remember we are spending public funds. Another section of the bill, Section 4 on page 5, gives some determination as to how they determine what a responsible bidder is. Now if the engineers indicate to the Directors that a known amount, a set dollar figure is impossible to come up with, then another procedure can be followed. Then by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors that agree with the