

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I would just like to urge you briefly, one more time, to reject the amendment. In addition to the bad precedent it would set up for setting up individual committees for procuring individual items, it leaves three additional possibilities that we don't really know the implications of. First of all, it should be understood and everybody knows that the timing on this particular bill is absolutely crucial. The bids, the specifications for the bids, they have to be made up and they have to go out shortly. If this bill passes and we get the emergency clause attached, the agreement is that that will be sufficiently timely to get competitive bidding on both types of plates. But I think a question arises if we adopt this amendment and we have a committee, when are they going to meet? How is this going to work? There is nothing set up in this amendment with regard to time schedule. We don't know when and if things are actually going to happen at this particular time with the committee. A second factor you should keep in mind, how likely is it that the Governor would support a bill with this kind of amendment? I am sure that the people on his procurement department are going to come to him in a rage about this new precedent that is going to be set on procurement matters. How are the budget people, how are they all going to feel about all of a sudden a new system being created for procurement? It is going to be a precedent that I don't think they are going to be able to live with and I think they are going to lobby the Governor very heavily not to pass a bill with this kind of precedence setting procedure inbuilt into it. Let's work with something that is within the normal standard procedures that we have worked with for decades and decades and that we have a fairly good, reasonable guess that the Governor will approve and not adopt something that will jeopardize the entire bill in that respect. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Clark, do you wish to speak to....?

SENATOR CLARK: I would have to reiterate what Senator Beutler has said. I talked to the Governor about this bill and he said, just give us a direction that we are supposed to go and we will do it. There will be no trouble with him signing the bill. I really can see no reason, you know, if you're going to bid on typewriters. You are going to have one of the secretaries, you are going to have... who is going to make up the typewriter bids. It is just stupid to do it. The Motor Vehicles Department has always done it, are very capable of doing it. There is no reason why they shouldn't continue to do it and there is no reason in this particular instance, outside of maybe 3M wanting someone else to do it. I don't know or I don't know why