

of pliers and that is the only type of device or instrument which could be used to circumvent a meter, could be used to get some of these services. Now I had a bill that went across yesterday dealing with radar transmission devices and there were several members of this body who questioned whether or not those devices could be used for some other purpose. I pointed out to you they couldn't be but now suddenly with an amendment, without a bill having a public hearing, we are going to make it illegal to have a pair of pliers and a screwdriver, and if you wanted to carry this to its furthest extent, I suggest to you that is exactly what we are doing. Now I recognize that my good friends, the rural electricians, and I recognize my good friends, Senator Sieck and Senator Johnson, are trying to address a concern that they have but I think they had better come in with a bill that is more cleanly drafted than this and make it a bill that goes through the public hearing process rather than come in with an amendment of the nature that it seems to me this one is drafted that is so broad that it could apply to everybody everywhere and try to put it through as an amendment. I oppose the adoption of this amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: We have an amendment to the amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to amend the Sieck-Johnson amendment by striking the new language found on page 1, lines 15 through 17.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, maybe we can reach a compromise on this and get on to our other business. Basically the bill does two things. It adds specifically a number of types of services to the existing statute so it expands the coverage of the statute by adding, electric service, natural gas service, and cable television, and my amendment leaves that in place so we expand the statute to include those areas. And then I delete from the proposed amendment the new language about deceptive and authorized means of obtaining a benefit at less than the rate or charge and I would like to delete that because I think that there are a lot of problems and questions that should be discussed with regard to that and that I think is the very controversial part of it. So I am suggesting to you that we delete that part, let them put in a bill and let's discuss that, and we go ahead expanding the scope of the coverage to include electric service, natural gas service, and cable television, which I think is probably what they wanted most of all in the first place. Thank you.