

deals in the same manner, who deals with contracts in a similar manner. In other words, we're saying...not only are we saying that it is okay for them to have a different set of rules but we're saying that the rules that we have provided with regard to our state employees are good enough to be governed by this, but when they are dealing with their contracts and their issues with regard to the manufacturers and the wholesalers, they can be dealt with in a different manner altogether. And I think that that is bad public policy. I think it is exactly the reason why the Uniform Arbitration Act was passed and I don't think that this issue is going to go away because what is going to happen is once the trickle starts and the floodgates are opened you're going to see everyone else come back in and say we think that our group should be dealt with in a different manner, that we should have the ability to set our own rules and regulations and we will have destroyed the idea and the impetus behind the Uniform Arbitration Act. Mr. President, I don't think that is something that this body wants to do, at least I hope it's not because this is a very substantive issue. It's an amendment that very few people I think are listening to, but it's an amendment that says we did not make a mistake a few years back when we adopted LB 71 and that act that would streamline the way contracts and negotiations are dealt with. I think it's poor public policy to move away from that and I would urge the body not to do that.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. Those in favor of closing debate please vote aye, opposed nay. Shall debate cease? Record, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 5 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate closes. Senator Hall, would you care to close?

SENATOR HALL: Yes, I would, Mr. President, thank you. The, again, the amendment is the one that would strike Section 20 and Section 20 appears as Section 19 in the green copy because of the amendments.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hall. (Gavel.) Proceed.