

attempt to change our service contract statute to (a) make it a lower level, a more possible level for people to comply with, while at the same time bringing people back in that have been exempted. At this point, though, it probably makes sense, at least for the interim, to go ahead and allow this particular service contract for the utilities that are selling, it's one that has not been regulated in the past, is not currently being regulated. Passage of the Landis amendment without the Withem amendment to the amendment will basically maintain the status quo as we're doing the study. So I will be withdrawing my amendment to the amendment and will be supporting of the Landis amendment, with the understanding that we're going to do a very serious look at the way in which we regulate service...individuals who sell service contracts. With that, I would withdraw my amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The Withem amendment is withdrawn. Back to the amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will briefly recharacterize, for the body, the amendment and then we'll be able to proceed. Let me, by the way, acknowledge that the Banking Committee has already prioritized our studies, and that the service contract study is one of the two or three top priorities for us this year. A service contract is where you make a prepayment for service. It is regulated. We're making another exemption, which we have a number of in our statutes, in this case for home appliance service by natural gas industries and utilities which are regulated. The reason being, there is a presence in the state sufficient to assure a consumer of an adequate remedy, and somebody to sue, if the contract goes bad. And, for that reason, I would urge the adoption of the amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the second part of the divided question. Senator Warner, would you care to discuss it, the Landis amendment? Thank you. Senator Abboud. Thank you. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I brought this bill to the Banking and Insurance Committee this year, LB 766 was advanced out of committee. And I think it just adds, as Senator Withem and Senator Landis have said before, adds the issuance of service contracts by heating and cooling systems, electrical companies. So it simply...and I think Senator Withem