

we move to those amendments.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Mr. Clerk, an amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first amendment to the committee amendments I have is by Senators Lindsay and Morrissey and those amendments are on page 985 of the Journal.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Lindsay, please.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Mr. President, I'm sending up to the Clerk an amendment that I would ask to substitute for it, and I guess I'd ask first, allow the Chair to ask whether there is any objection to it and I can explain the amendment. The amendment basically, the way it is drafted, the amendment as drafted...this young pup made another mistake. The amendment as drafted increases, puts the increase in throughout the bill. What the amendment does is just makes the amendment a \$20...amends it so that unemployment is up to \$154. Basically reinstates the language of the original bill up to line...up to the line that covers \$154 a week which would be on the original bill, page 5, line 8.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Are there any objections to the substitute motion? If not, so ordered.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Mr. President, what this amendment would do is to bring the state up to the point where we should be already. If we applied the Consumer Price Index over the past 10 years, using what the wage rate was at that time or using the unemployment rate at that time, we would be at \$159.81 just for unemployment. If, what this amendment would do is to raise that this year up to \$154. We'd still be below the Consumer Price Index over the last 10 years. We have run it over the last 20 years also, and I'm going to be passing these around for everybody, but over the past 20 years applying the Consumer Price Index, we're at \$154.20. So this would just adjust us so that immediately we would have been adjusted up to the Consumer Price Index adjustments so that basically, by voting for this amendment, you are voting that unemployment benefits not be decreased in real dollars. I should point out for the record, and I guess I would ask people to...maybe we can debate both sides of this, but Senator Coordsen, I believe, has an amendment up to the committee amendments that would do the same thing over two years. The difference between Senator Coordsen's amendment