

to get as good a bill as we can and I do think my amendment, which I will offer on Select File, if the body...well, I guess I don't want to say, I don't want to tie up a lot of time either, if they do accept the committee amendments. I would hope that they would reject them at this time and leave it at 12 months and give us a little time to work on that as Senator Landis maybe suggested. I don't want to hurt any good, viable business and that happens in everyone. The bad takes the good down the drain.

SENATOR LAMB PRESIDING

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Landis to close on the committee amendments.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. It is important to remind ourselves what's at issue here and what is not at issue here. The Banking Committee reported this bill out 5 to 1. I, personally, am a supporter of the bill, want to see it passed, happy to vote for it on General File. Senator Nelson and I have a disagreement on this one committee amendment. It is a minor piece of the whole puzzle. In fact, we have large areas of overlapping agreement. The adjustment was made by the committee because of testimony we got from what we regarded as a reputable dealer who is writing contracts. Those contracts happen to be 24-month contracts. He indicated that there was value to have contracts even longer than that, but that was the practice. His practice would have to change if the bill in its green copy form was unamended. The committee adopted 36 months. It is possible that that may be too long. If we are to err at this point, I would err on the side of the committee amendments, and then Senator Nelson and the Banking staff, along with perhaps the Fiscal Research Office can try and analyze what is the best place to put this standard. If we are to err at this point, I would err on the side of keeping legitimate businesses able to do the kinds of contracts that they can now do and have been able to flourish and succeed with, rather than undoing the kinds of terms that they can now have. It is true that they may have a one or two or three-year contract which will go unchanged by this bill. In other words, this bill cannot change existing contracts, but contracts come to an end and they become subject to renewal. When the renewal comes and if the bill is not changed, the practices which are now followed by some clubs will have to be changed. I'd suggest that we need to study more before we make the decision to do that. I think the more prudent course is to pass the committee