

please.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I just rise briefly to support the amendment as Senator Beutler has now proposed it. I had some concern, as he indicated, being discretionary and using judgment, and trying to decide what is significant, but rather just a general requirement of a distribution of a policy manual and updated periodically. And, as you recall, it is a loose leaf type of policy manual that if policies are altered or changed, modified, that those then are distributed to the offices and can be inserted into the policy manual. Incidentally, those are considered the, quote, property of the Legislative District, not of the senator. And it is assumed that as we leave office that policy manual would be passed on to one's successor. And mostly it's a case of just expense, because they are, as you know, fairly voluminous, and that way there will be a method which as people come in will be able to know those policies. And I appreciate Senator Beutler putting this in as an amendment so that it will be an ongoing policy.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Withem, please.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body. I was looking around the floor for you, I wanted to visit with you about this, and I see you're sitting up in the Chair now, so you're somewhat prevented from engaging in the discussion. But I recall last year, Senator Beutler brought this amendment as a bill to the Government Committee. Government Committee held a hearing on it. It was worthy, at that time, of bill introduction. Here we are on Select File with the introduction of an amendment. I have a concern about doing this at this time, in this manner. I believe the discussion in the Government Committee was it wasn't a particularly good idea to place a matter like this in statute. As I remember, on this very bill, on General File, Senator Lynch brought before us a matter of internal legislative policy in reference to how members of particular committees are chosen. And there is fairly strong objection to doing that, because it's an internal legislative policy that needs to be handled within the Legislature. I don't know why we need to impose upon us, in statute, a requirement to have a policy handbook, when if we want a policy handbook we simply decide to do that as an Exec Board. I don't know why we need to go through the problems of