

CLERK: Mr. President, 1257 was a bill that was discussed yesterday by the Legislature on General File. The committee amendments were offered by Senator Johnson. There were a number of amendments to the committee amendments that were considered, some of which were adopted. The first amendment I have to the committee amendments this afternoon is by Senator Ashford. Senator Ashford is excused until he arrives, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Pass over that for right now.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Wesely would move to amend the committee amendments. (Wesely amendment, AM3497, appears on pages 1552-57 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. This amendment is brought to you following the introduction of a bill to rename the Department of Environmental Control to the Department of Environmental Quality. The bill was introduced by myself and Senator Schmit, Senator Morrissey, and was heard by the... I think Senator Johnson also cosigned it, it was introduced and heard by the Natural Resources Committee, put out unanimously. Unfortunately it's not a priority bill and I've asked Senator Morrissey, and he graciously agreed to this amendment. It is supported by the Department of Environmental Control. And I don't know of any opposition to it. The concept is to rename the department to reflect the evolution of the department that is now focused on quality of the environment, not necessarily controlling aspects of environmental activity. I think that we all recognize the evolution of departments and their focus and we need to follow up on that evolution with the name change. It's somewhat reminiscent of the Department of Social Services issue, when we went from the Department of Public Welfare to Department of Social Services. It may not seem like much, but there is a lot to be said for how you title and name activity. I remember that about ten years ago, now ten years later. I think the time has come to make a name change in the Department of Environmental Control. I'd ask for your support of this amendment and would be happy to answer questions.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. I simply