

January 17, 1995

amendment is not or will not be in order. That's the only thing the amendment does.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Any discussion on the Beutler amendment? Senator Landis, do you wish to address the Beutler amendment? Senator Chambers, you want to address the Beutler amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, first of all, I want to say that I do want to cosponsor with Senator Beutler. And when these opportunities come to reach the middle ground we have to take them. But with reference to some of the things Senator Witek said, she gives her opinion as I give mine. But she said there's no middle ground in the things that I do. I think she missed what I said about some issues not being that significant to me and I'll talk on them and if I lose them, I just let them go. But if it's a serious enough issue, then I will do everything within the rules to defeat it, if I'm opposed to it, everything within the rules to get it passed if I'm in favor of it. But regardless of how anybody perceives what I do, and they're entitled to give their opinion about my work, as I give mine very readily about theirs, I'm not going to deviate from the way I think I ought to behave in the Legislature. This is not an elitist club, this is not the U.S. Senate. This is where 49 people get \$1,200 (sic) a year to come down here and do the best they can, some take it more seriously than others, some take it less seriously than others. There are some things that the Legislature deals with that don't amount to a hill of beans to me, they're peewee issues, and I don't even get involved in them. A lot of resolutions are offered that I think are an insult to our intelligence, but I've restrained myself so I don't stand up and say that on every one of them that is offered that I feel that way about. There are people who don't read bills well, they're not familiar with their own legislation. So if I wanted to just really be a "meanie" I could take most of the bills that people offer on this floor and embarrass the introducer, because the introducer does not understand the bill as written, and certainly doesn't understand how it ties into existing legislation. And if you listen to their explanations you see that they don't know what they're talking about. All of that is fine, let that go. If they feel comfortable behaving like that, fine. But I'm still going to do what I think is necessary to achieve the goals that I have in mind. On this particular item the language that Senator Beutler has put on the desk is designed to do the thing that I had said