

of the problems that one could expect to find in these types of services, in this bill it provides for including interpreter services and auxiliary aids.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: I somewhere picked up the information that there are a number of different sign systems that are in existence, something like eight or ten. It creates quite a problem, and this is something I want to ask you, if you are familiar with that?

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Sign language has its different dialects just about like any other language.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Uh-huh.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: In this area my understanding is, and don't think that I'm the one and only in this, there's only a couple different dialects, most of the time if you learn American sign language, you can switch into one or the other without much trouble.

SENATOR COORDSEN: I wasn't clear what the differences were because it could have an impact on the ability of any agency service to deliver to an individual who had applied. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler followed by Senators Robinson, Crosby, Wehrbein, Bernard-Stevens and Wesely.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I have traditionally been a supporter of additional services to the hearing-impaired but I would like to express a few reservations about this bill and ask you to think about some things and in the process I guess I'm asking Senator Crosby or Senator Wesely to respond to some questions. The commission that we're talking about is not a code agency. It's not controlled by the Governor, it's not controlled by anybody. It's another one of these separate independent commissions and I guess I start out with the prejudice that I should admit to you