

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Mr. Clerk, do you have an amendment?

CLERK: Senator Hudkins would move to amend, Madam President. The amendment is found on page 678 of the Journal.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Hudkins, on your amendment.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Madam President and members of the Legislature, I'd be real curious in how many of you have taken the time to look up the statute that I have referred to in my amendment and I'd be even more curious to see how many of you looked up all of the statutes referred to in the bill. I filed this amendment to point out what I believe is a failing in the manner in which we allow some bills to be drafted. LB 296 attempts to place into statute a law that died of its own accord due to a sunset provision in the original legislation. However, the manner in which LB 296 is brought to us doesn't include the specific language that we're being asked to enact. Instead, the language just cites statute numbers that under our current laws don't even exist. While it is possible to go to the statute books and look up the old provisions, I don't think that this is the proper manner in which to enact laws. It wouldn't take one more bit of paper, as far as this bill is concerned, to have placed the specific language in the bill. Further, the use of 49-302 doesn't seem applicable to me. 49-302 says that whenever a law is repealed, which repealed a former law, the former law shall not thereby be revived unless specifically provided for. Section 3 of LB 296 proposes to repeal a law that no longer exists. It died of its own volition on December 1, 1994. We tell the public to call us or to call the Clerk's Office or to call the Bill Room when there is a bill that they don't understand and request a copy of it. What further information will they have gained from this bill and others if what they get back is a bill that refers to various statutes? They're not going to know unless they happen to have a set of law books as a desk reference. Enacting bills in this manner fails to provide the citizenry of this state notice of the language that we are discussing on the floor. Actions such as this by the body don't help in building the confidence of the citizenry in their elected officials. In researching this issue, it came to my attention that it would be absolutely appropriate to draft legislation in the manner in which this amendment is drafted. It's impossible to tell by this amendment whether it's germane to the bill, much less tell what the amendment does. The fact