

amendments to LB 337.

SPEAKER WITHEM: All in favor say aye. Opposed. They are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first amendment I have to the bill is by Senator Wickersham.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wickersham, on your amendment.

CLERK: Senator, AM0963 in front of me. (See page 1780 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is an amendment that modifies a portion of the bill that was a Beutler amendment. I have discussed it with Senator Beutler and I don't believe he has any objections to it. It was distributed to you this morning so you should find it on your desk. It has not been printed in the Journal. What it concerns is the notice that has to be published, and Senator Beutler introduced an amendment that said it had to be in a newspaper of general circulation in the congressional district in which the meeting would be held. The difficulty occurs in the Third Congressional District where there is no single, at least in my opinion, no single newspaper which would meet the criteria. So the amendment simply provides that the notice would be published in such newspapers as are necessary to provide for general circulation within the congressional district. Now for the Third District, that might be a couple of different newspapers, but at least it gives you that avenue for compliance. I would make a strong argument that unless you adopt my amendment as a practical matter it would be impossible to comply with the law in the Third Congressional District. If Senator Beutler wishes to make any comments, I give him some time. Otherwise, that would conclude my opening.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Beutler, I think...were you wishing to speak? He is not. Thank you, Senator Wickersham. To debate the Wickersham amendment, Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. I don't really wish to debate the Wickersham amendment, but I want to take the time to discuss an item I have on 337, and I would like to do it at the beginning of the debate. I just wanted to call your attention to the Attorney General's Opinion.