

that used to be in the bill that was taken out. They left that in, the committee did, to leave the conversion table in and also would authorize political subdivisions to negotiate the rates. That was in the bill. The committee left that in and, Senator Will, that's a basic overview, if you'd like, if you've got some more things to add into the committee amendment, but the real crux, I believe, is the Maurstad-Schellpeper-Kristensen amendment and Hudkins amendment that is going to be to the committee amendment and, quite frankly, Senator Will, I... that's probably where the discussion will be generated, but that's a brief discussion of the committee amendment. At this point, I'd yield back the time to Senator Will and thank him for the opportunity to briefly do that.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you. Mr. Clerk, I understand there's an amendment. Oh, I'm sorry. Senator Will, did you have anything further to add?

SENATOR WILL: No, just briefly I would... I've had a chance to look at the amendment and concur with Senator Kristensen's description of it. It does put back in the conversion table that the original bill would have removed and giving the authority to the Department of Administrative Services and, with that, I would take up the amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senators Maurstad, Schellpeper, Hudkins and Kristensen would move to amend, AM1456. You'll find the amendment in your bill books, AM1456.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Okay, Senator Maurstad I believe is the principle introducer but he has authorized you, Senator Kristensen, to carry this amendment?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: That's correct, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, thank you. This particular amendment...and here comes Senator Maurstad and I'll tell you, Senator Maurstad, what great timing. It's just like Michael Jordan walking into the court as the team begins to start. If you'd like, Senator Maurstad, this is the opening on your amendment to the amendment. I'll give you my time to open.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Maurstad.