

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wehrbein, you are recognized to speak.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, I will accept Senator Beutler's...I think he's going to file the amendment and that it was acceptable to me and I will wait for him to get it filed. I understand what he is saying and wants to focus a little more on that particular issue. I accept that and it does so-called tighten the bill up. I don't know, we never loosen a bill, we always tighten it, but I accept that, Senator Beutler.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Beutler, I understand you have some action you'd like to take with your amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Withem, I'd ask consent to withdraw the amendment and to substitute, therefore, the amendment that was just given to the Clerk. (FA229 appears on page 2289 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: There's a request for a substitution? Is there any objection? Seeing none, it is so ordered. Senator Beutler, on your amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Withem, members of the Legislature, I think this amendment probably picks up the concerns of both parties in a way that should be agreeable. What the amendment does is basically on lines 15 and 16 leave in the new language that has been suggested by Senator Wehrbein so that there would be an exception to the cruelty to animals provision for police animals. However, on line 15 before the word "care", the words "commonly accepted" would be included so that what would be excepted from the cruelty to animals provision would be commonly accepted care or treatment of a police animal by a law enforcement officer in the normal course of his or her duties, thereby subjecting a police officer to the cruelty to animals provision in the event that they were handling the animal in a way that was not a commonly accepted practice in the world of law enforcement through the use of police dogs or police horses for that matter. And with that I would invite questions or comments. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Beutler. On the substituted Beutler amendment, Senator Chambers. Senator, hit your light off, Senator Chambers, if you want to speak again. Senator Beutler. No further discussion on this amendment. Senator Beutler, you are recognized to close. Closing is waived. The