

broaden the scope, as some would argue. What it does is ensures that records that have nonpublic status retain that. Again, I rise in opposition to the amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature. I guess I have a question for Senator Hall, if he would yield.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Hall, would you yield?

SENATOR HALL: Yes.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Senator Hall, the pass out, which looks like this, has in the underlined the Kate Witek amendment, right? And then the regular printing is the new language in LB 509. And, quite frankly, I do support LB 509 and I understand why the Executive Board did have to bring 509 to us, because I think it's very good to make clear to everyone, not only the public but everyone in state government what is the public and the nonpublic information. But I guess my question for you is we're talking about working papers and other audit files maintained by the Auditor of Public Accounts are not public records and are exempt from those Sections 84-712, 712.05, but...and then this is the Witek amendment, right? That was the committee words. And the Witek amendment is to the extent that the contents of the papers and files may be withheld from the public under Section 84-712.05 or any other statute that expressly provides that that particular information or records shall not be made public. So if we are establishing some guidelines and we're not creating new areas of nonpublic, why would that be so objectionable? What would that pertain to if indeed we have statutes that expressly provide that information shall not be made public?

SENATOR HALL: Is that...Mr. President, members, Senator Pirsch, the amendment as it's drafted, it reads, if you read it it says, "to the extent contents of the papers and files may be withheld from the public under Section 84-712.05"...

SENATOR PIRSCH: Or any other statute that expressly provides that that particular information or records shall not be made public.