

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I would certainly like to support the Witek amendment. I don't see any reason to single out these particular agencies and treat them differently from other agencies. If we want to have a general debate on all agencies and on the appropriateness of personnel being under the personnel system, then what we ought to do is take part B of the particular section we're dealing with and change it for all agencies, change it for all agencies. Why are we taking certain agencies and saying it's more important to have nonpersonnel system agent...persons in this agency? I don't see any rationale for doing that. The current system is a step system, based upon the number of people in a particular agency. And I wish Senator Wesely were here because I think we should pin down exactly how many positions are increasing in terms of the numbers that are not under the personnel system, but it looks like it probably is somewhere in the area of ten positions. And it looks like probably Senator Witek's amendment would return it to about the level at which it would be if it divided up into three agencies. We don't know how many people are in each of the three agencies, so we don't know how many the current rule would allow to be in each of the three agencies, maybe they can tell us how many employees are in each of the three agencies. But I think Senator Withem talked about the evil of the old days and the spoils system, and of course human nature doesn't change, at least I don't think it changes much. And I think on things like this, as soon as campaigns discover that there are more and more positions available that will be built into the campaign, and you will see that all of these positions will turn over at election time. And will they be better people? Will they be people there because they're qualified? I mean the argument on the one side is, well, the Governor will put people in there who are effective. Maybe this one would, maybe the next one would, but maybe the one after that really wants to win the election real bad and decides that he needs a group of people that are working hard on the election and these people are going to get jobs afterwards. And then what kind of people do you get into the positions? Are they better qualified people, or are they people to whom the Governor owes something and therefore probably will be less qualified people? And beyond that, consider this effect, what about people who are really interested in what they're doing? I mean we demean them sometimes and say these are career bureaucrats. But you know there are an awful lot of