

CLERK: Senator Wickersham and Beutler would move to amend. The amendment is on page 1062 of the Journal. (See AM3558.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. President, this is an amendment that is sponsored by Senator Beutler and myself. Senator Beutler had asked several questions on General File. This amendment is a response to those inquiries. And I can go through it quickly with you and describe what it does. Section 1 modifies the definition of emergency, which is in the bill. Senator Beutler felt that that definition was too broad, allowing the local governments and potentially the Governor an opportunity to declare a state of emergency when it really was not necessarily justified. The amendment meets his concerns by qualifying the definition of emergency to those circumstances in which serious damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from natural or man-made causes may occur or is occurring. And further, the state of emergency could only be declared, and I think this is common sense, to accomplish the purposes of the Emergency Management Act. Section 2 of the amendment is simply a clarifying amendment, specifying who receives notice of the rescision of a state of emergency. Those notices go to the Secretary of State and the clerks of the local government in the area to which they apply. Number 3, again, subsection 3 is again kind of a clarifying amendment. It makes clear that the local emergency management organization must have either a full-time director or a full-time deputy, one of those people needs to be full time, and then they can have such additional personnel as may be needed. Number 4 is, again, a clarifying amendment. In various places in the bill the phrasing is "director or coordinator." Number 4 is simply one of those places where only the word "director" was included, not "director or coordinator." Don't ask me to explain why they are directors or coordinators, but they are. And to avoid asking people to go back and change all their titles, their stationery, et cetera, we'll leave them as...so they can be called a director or a coordinator. I don't know if any of them are called director or coordinator together, but anyway, it's one of those peculiar things. Number, section...subsection 5 of the amendment simply concerns the process for rescision of the declaration of a state of emergency in a local government. It simply says it continues in effect until the principal executive officer declares it to an end or at any time the local governing