

that's been received is a qualified order. Our concern is about distributions from the plan before we might have had a final determination of who is entitled to the benefits. For example, in some instances, people are entitled to a lump sum distribution. Once that lump sum is gone, it is gone. We would have very little mechanism for recovering it and redistributing it in accordance with any order that might have been entered directing its distribution. We want to be able to provide the mechanisms to protect the interests of any person who might be entitled to that distribution. One other comment I might make about the amendment and the bill itself is that this does not, neither the bill nor the amendment, does not create any additional rights to retirement benefits of any kind. It is simply a process and a procedure for dividing up what is already there, splitting the pie in the event of a dissolution and letting NPERS and PERB know exactly how the pie has been split so when eventually the distributions are made, they can be made as the parties may have agreed or as a court has ordered. If there are any questions, I'll be happy to try to respond to them. I know that there are subsequent amendments. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Any further discussion on the Wickersham amendment? There is none. Senator Wickersham, do you have a closing? Closing is waived. The question is, shall the Wickersham amendment be adopted? All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Wickersham's amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Are there any additional amendments, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Senator Chambers would move to amend the bill. (FA562 on page 1316 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I offer this amendment for one reason and one reason only. It goes to the same-sex marriage issue. If people could pry their minds away from the obsession with crotches and sexual intercourse, they can see from a bill like this that there are issues of civil, social, and legal rights. What my amendment would say is that the term "spouse" or "former spouse" may