

March 21, 1983

LB 43, 325

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Kahle, did you wish to talk on his suggestion? Are there any objections? If not, so ordered. LB 325.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 325 offered by Senators Higgins, Beutler and Chronister. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 17, referred to the Government Committee. The bill was advanced to General File, Mr. President. There are committee amendments pending by the Government Committee.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Landis, are you going to take the committee amendments? Senator Higgins, did you wish to make a statement on this bill?

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. Speaker, this is Senator Beutler's bill. Somehow ever since it got introduced I have been named as the principal introducer. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: You didn't want your name taken off it though?

SENATOR HIGGINS: No, I will leave my name on. It is just that it is Senator Beutler's bill originally.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay. Senator Landis, are you going to take the committee amendments?

SENATOR LANDIS: Excuse me, Mr. Speaker, we were just having a little confab over in my aisle here, comparing notes on the weekend I guess, or something. This is a bill on the state auditor and we have made some changes as to the effect of the bill. The change on page 2 is a technical one. The amendment on page 3 changes the provision relating to the accounting of principles to be applied to audit financial and accounting reports that cities, schools and the like provide. Now as written, the bill says that those audits should be according to sound accounting principles as determined by the State Board of Public Accountancy and that is not the appropriate term of art. The appropriate term of art is generally accepted accounting principles. Oddly enough, you may not think that language that simple would hold much meaning but the generally accepted accounting principles are the standards that the profession holds for itself and they are part of the oath that accountants sign when they agree to the way the audit has been made. They are agreeing that the audit has been made according to the standards commonly used by the profession and in so doing we are substituting for language which is not the normal language, for that which is the nationally