

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I have no objection to the amendment. I would just like to say at this point that in the last number of years that I have been in this body, on numerous occasions, businessmen have come to me and protested the treatment they were receiving when highway construction is taking place in their area. It is always amazing to me that the individuals who deal with the businessmen out in the country can be very adamant about a proposed project but that whenever I went to the highway engineer, almost without exception, some accommodation could be made. And it seems like it is unusual that you have to go to the top man in this instance to find a reasonable method of accommodating a local business. I know many times it doesn't require that much of an adjustment in their specifications if it is done early enough and almost always, as I said, the top man has been able to make that accommodation. What I hope this amendment does, if we adopt the Beutler amendment to the committee amendment, is that we place into the statute language which indicates to those individuals who handle the problem in the field that businesses do have some rights and that the state does not have the absolute authority to ride roughshod over a business. I would accept the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler, would you like to close on your amendment to the amendment please.

SENATOR BEUTLER: No closing, Mr. Speaker, other than to indicate once again it brings the language of the amendment and, therefore, the bill into fairly close compliance to what is the standard operating procedure for the Department of Roads right now.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the adoption of the Beutler amendment to the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Beutler's amendment to the committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The Beutler amendment to the committee amendment is adopted. Do we have another amendment to the...okay? Anything further on the...Senator Warner, did you...we are back to the committee amendments.