

CLERK: Mr. President, on 252, the first item I have are E & R amendments.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President, I would move the E & R amendments be adopted.

PRESIDENT: You've heard the motion. All those in favor say aye. Opposed no. Motion carried. The amendments are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to amend the bill. Senator Beutler's amendment is found on page 599 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: 590?

CLERK: 599.

PRESIDENT: 599, page 599. The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, you will recall that that bill has to do with commitment procedures to the mental health center. As you will recall the definition of a mentally ill, dangerous person is expanded by this bill to include a drug abusing person. Then later on in the definition section a drug abusing person is defined to mean a person who uses any drugs so as to endanger the public safety or welfare, or who is so addicted to the use of drugs as to have lost the power of self-control with regard...with respect to his or her addiction. What my amendment would do would be to change the definition of a drug abusing person to simply say a person addicted to the use of controlled substances. The effect of that amendment is to narrow the definition. It would effectively narrow it in two respects. First of all, it would cut out the language about endangering public health, safety or welfare, and the language about losing the power of self-control, some of which is redundant, in my opinion, and other of which is vaguely expansive and therefore inappropriate. Secondly, it narrows the definition in that it would define drugs at least as controlled substances and not leave it open to interpretation as to include...as to possibly include a broad number of additional substances under the definition