

amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Barrett, do you wish to speak on the amendment?

SENATOR BARRETT: Mr. President, just to say that I would rise in opposition on general principles. I have been very, very content with the statute as it stands. Senator Johnson did not discuss this with me prior to his offering the amendment and I would simply have to stand and say I would oppose the Johnson amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Do you wish to speak on the amendment, Senator Landis?

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, only very briefly...

PRESIDENT: May we have order please. There is quite a bit of conversation around the Chamber. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...striking language that serves as a restriction to receiving a license on the basis of a felony conviction makes sense, with respect to people who had felony convictions in their youth and now approach middle age and have shown some rehabilitation. There is, however, in the commission of a felony while performing the acts of a real estate broker, and that is possible, fraud, misrepresentation, theft, those kinds of acts should be bars to the holding of a license. While I agree with at least part of the agenda that Senator Johnson suggests, I would suggest to you that striking the language completely leaves us open to the prospect of a felon who has committed an act in the course of his real estate brokerage that upon release of his obligations under the law could come back and renew his license. That seems to me manifestly unfair and unsensible. I think there is a better way to rifle the remedy that is needed here rather than the meat-ax amendment of Senator Johnson. I would suggest to him that on Select File he offer us a better opportunity to address the situation than the one that he has given us here.

PRESIDENT: Is there further discussion on the amendment? Senator Chambers, do you wish to speak in the amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, to not use a technical term, in England there