

says. Current statute says, last person hired is the first person out. The current bill struck that language...the original version of the bill struck that language and basically left it to each municipality how they were going to write their reduction in force policy. The committee amendment that you have forward is an attempt to strike a middle ground which says when a reduction in force is made, again we have a laundry list of items that can be considered, one of those is seniority. Seniority can be considered so we are not totally doing away with an individual's past service but it cannot be the only factor that will be considered. But what the committee has done is we think we have taken a very complex bill, probably made it more complex in some ways, but what we have attempted to do is reach some sort of middle ground consensus on these very important matters. With that, I hope I have explained the committee amendments. I will attempt to answer any questions and I urge you to adopt the committee amendments. And, Senator Hannibal, please quit laughing.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Clerk, I understand there is an amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator...excuse me.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Excuse me one second. Senator Withem, I didn't catch your last remark. You referred to Senator Landis, I'm sorry.

SENATOR WITHEM: No, it was Senator Hannibal who was laughing at me.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Clerk, I understand there is an amendment to the committee amendments.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Vickers would move to amend the committee amendments. (Read the Vickers amendment as found on page 1442 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, the language that I am striking from the committee amendments is if you will turn to your white copy, on page 17, it is describing the position and it says that an applicant for a position of any kind under Civil Service shall be able to read and write