

what constitutes a CPA will ultimately determine who can run for this office because the requirements to be a CPA can be changed at any time by the Legislature, at any time by the Legislature. So if the Legislature wants to do away with certain parts of an examination, it can do so. When you talk about licensing people in a state the Legislature sets up all of the requirements. If you adopt this amendment, you are not guaranteeing, even if you like the idea, that a CPA, as you understand what a CPA is today, will always be the case. But why, when it comes to an office that does not require one to be a CPA to discharge the duties and responsibilities of it, should you restrict it to those in a given profession who may have a vested interest in obtaining an office of this kind? If you reject the amendment, then we end all discussion of the issue. I have said before that I haven't raised the issue of germaneness and challenged a bill on that basis, and I know some people have talked about that, so I'll put it to rest by saying that I'm not going to try to defeat the amendment on that basis. First of all the rules say that any committee amendment is germane. But we know that what is and is not germane is determined by how many votes are out here on the floor of the Legislature. This is an issue which should be voted down because it is not a good and worthwhile proposition. So I hope you will not vote to accept the committee amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Haberman, then Senator Beutler.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, would it be possible for me to let Senator Beutler speak, then I speak after he?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Excuse me.

SENATOR HABERMAN: May I swap places with Senator Beutler?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Yes, sir. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members...

SPEAKER NICHOL: Excuse me, Senator Beutler, it's a little noisy and I can't hear what you are saying. Let's hold it down so we can hear the speakers. Thank you.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I thought that perhaps we wouldn't get into the debate on this until we were on the bill itself. But I can see that we