

May 1, 1985

LB 687

CLERK: That's right, yes.

SPEAKER NICHOL: That's correct.

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay, thank you. Well, I guess I would like to ask Senator Beutler a question then.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler, please.

SENATOR VICKERS: Senator Beutler, under this amendment, the baccalaureate degree could be in any field. Is that correct?

SENATOR BEUTLER: That's right, Senator.

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay, thank you. I supported the original committee amendments. I supported the idea that the Auditor of Public Accounts should be a...

SPEAKER NICHOL: The call is raised.

SENATOR VICKERS: ...CPA. But I have a very difficult time in supporting an amendment that says that the Auditor of Public Accounts should have a baccalaureate degree in any subject. Now I recognize that a baccalaureate degree is in a broad...is supposed to be a broad educational opportunity, but it seems rather ridiculous to me to say that the Auditor of Public Accounts could have a baccalaureate degree in music or a baccalaureate degree in philosophy, or a baccalaureate degree in foreign language and, therefore, they are more qualified to be the State Auditor. That really doesn't make any sense to me. As a matter of fact, that individual could know no more about mathematics or accounting than somebody that has got a high school degree, or maybe he doesn't even have a high school degree. I am reminded of my father who didn't even have any more than an eighth grade degree but yet could figure in his head things that it takes me quite a while to do with a calculator and knew his multiplication tables up to 25, just like that, like most of us know them up to 10. He couldn't have been a State Auditor. He wouldn't have wanted to have been because he had more sense than run for public office. But the fact of the matter is having a baccalaureate degree in some subject completely unrelated to accounting or mathematics as a requirement to being the State Auditor makes no sense to