

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Members of the Legislature, if you have a CPA without a degree, why would you want such an unqualified person to hold the office anyway? Here is a person who can't even qualify for a baccalaureate in accounting and you are going to let this person run your state? There is no logic to what is being done here. There is an attempt artificially to restrict who can run for this office and when you attempt these artificial and arbitrary restrictions you run into some of the illogical situations that you are being confronted with this morning. So I am asking that you strike subdivision 2 of the Vickers amendment to the committee amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler, then Senator Vickers, then Senator Lundy.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, there is nothing whatsoever illogical about the amendment. The amendment, to refresh your memory, is in two parts. It says that you need to have a baccalaureate degree with a major in accounting, or you need to be a CPA with a current license to practice. The only reason that the second part of the amendment is there is because there are some CPA's who did not major in accounting in the past, now they have to major in accounting, but who did not in the past, who may want...who you may want to have qualified for the office, because in order to become CPA's they had to have a certain number of years of experience and they had to have passed an examination. So, obviously, by virtue of doing that, these are people that are somewhat qualified for the office. Maybe they are not as qualified as those younger people now who are required to major in accounting, but they are nonetheless a qualified group. There is nothing logical or inconsistent with that part of the amendment and the first part of the amendment. If you want to adopt the Chambers amendment, it is no big thing one way or the other with me if you do or do not. But if you adopt his amendment, the effect of that will be to further limit, further limit the number of people available for the office which has, as you may recall, the exact contrary effect to what Senator Chambers has been arguing all morning long. The second part of that amendment broadens the field. This part of the amendment limits it. So I am really asking in my own mind whether it is an honest amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vickers, please.