

philosophically a correct move and is certainly a move that will assist in moving some of the freshmen senators off the eighth floor and down to where they can operate on an effective level during the legislative session. I would ask for the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. The question is the adoption of the Beutler motion. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. We're voting on the adoption of the Beutler amendment. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 2 nays on adoption of Senator Beutler's amendment to the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The Beutler amendment is adopted. What's next, Mr. Clerk, please?

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment is by Senator Wesely. Senator Wesely's amendment is on page 2295.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. Speaker, members, I apologize. I was in back and didn't have a chance to get back here sooner. This amendment concerns the state employee health insurance program. I didn't hear the page number on that. Could you repeat that? I think it's 2295, isn't it?

CLERK: Yes.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay. You can look at that or you can look at the handout I passed out last time we met, yesterday. It is covered with a yellow sheet and goes through a number of different charts and graphs, talked about the problems of state employee health insurance. Just to briefly to go over with you the background and then get into the particular recommendation that I'm making, everybody is familiar I think with the issue. It's been around now, this is the third session we've debated the concept of moving away from first dollar hospital coverage for our state employees. It started back three sessions ago when I came in and raised the issue as a cost containment feature. We were defeated in terms of making the change, but an amendment was adopted which called for a study by the Department of Personnel and they did conduct that study to look at the issue and come back with recommendations. So they did do that and last