

(Haberman amendment appears on page 623 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Motion of Senator Haberman to amend. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, evidently the Legislature feels that it's very important that taxicab drivers and semi drivers shall not be eligible for an employment driving permit. The body has decided that this is very important and that they shouldn't receive them. So, to more carefully balance this bill, I've done considerable thinking about it for the last few days and I think that we should not have any operator of an emergency vehicle be eligible for a driver's permit as well as taxicab drivers and semi drivers. When you stop to think of the responsibility of the driver of an emergency vehicle going to a scene of an accident, when he has the people in the vehicle and is responsible taking them to the hospital, when you think of the firemen going to a fire, the big ladder trucks coming around the corners and the man on the back is supposed to steer to be sure that the wheels are straight, stop and think about all that. Should they be able to have a driver's permit if they have been picked up for DWI? Maybe they are a habitual drinker and this is the first time they're caught. Possibly, when they go to work the person who is supposed to take them to work doesn't show up, so how are they going to get there? They use their own vehicle. But that's not right. So if we're going to exempt the taxicab drivers and the semis, that they cannot have drivers licenses, we should give this some serious thought about drivers of emergency vehicles, fire engines, police cars and everything else because that's very, very important and so, therefore, I would like to ask you to adopt my amendment and also the future amendments that are school bus drivers and municipal bus drivers because this is a very weighty, weighty problem, a very serious situation we have here and I think we should give it considerable thought and say that those people shall not be eligible also. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hoagland, on the Haberman amendment.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise to oppose this amendment and let me tell you why. Senator Haberman has this amendment and two others that have been