

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Vickers, please.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, could I ask the Clerk, is that amendment printed?

CLERK: No, sir, it is not.

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay. I should have had copies made, I suspect, for you. Basically what it does, the committee...and I'm not sure...I had to step out of the room for a few minutes. I'm not sure whether Senator Johnson touched on this or not. But the committee amendments puts some language in to put an...an attempt to put a cap on the amount of the cash funds so that there would be...there would not be the possibility of creating a mechanism whereby a large, large amount of funds could be in that cash fund. The intent, by the committee, was that it be capped at 15 percent more than their budget. Now the language, as it wound up being drafted in the committee amendments, indicates that it would be only 15 percent of their budget. Now it was our original intention it be 115 percent of their budget. Furthermore, the people at the tractor test station indicated to us, or indicated to me that there was a great variation in their budget from year to year because a tractor company may, this year, contract and pay for a test that will not be conducted until...or they are actually paying for a slot to have a tractor tested, and it might not be in this year's budget, it might be next year before that test is actually done. So the monies could be coming in in this year's budget, and yet the expenses wouldn't be until next year's budget. So the amendment that is up there would clarify that it is 115 percent of their actual cost, or their actual expenditures on a five year average. So it would give them the ability to build in the fact that they have a great variance and a great variation in their year to year expenditures. That is the essence of the amendment, Mr. President. I would urge the adoption of it.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Rod Johnson, please, on the amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members, just very briefly, I see this is a friendly amendment to the committee amendments. I would urge its adoption. I failed to mention that in my opening on the committee amendments, but I believe Senator Vickers has done a very fine job of