

now to set the standards and do all this other regulation and I'm going to charge you to do that, so that even though he is not doing the audits he is still charging the counties for this function that really ought not to be performed. And so we are taking away this authority for the auditor to do that. We want to very specific about that. We don't think the auditor, if a CPA firm has been hired, ought to be interjecting himself. Those CPA firms have got standards they have to meet and they will meet those standards or they wouldn't be certified and there is no reason the State Auditor ought to be interjecting himself and so that specific language is taken out. Language is put in making it very clear that the counties and ESUs can contract with the auditor or with a CPA firm and that gets to the amendment that I have before you. Because we only talk about certified public accountants in the amendment, Joe Ayers who represents independent public accountants and licensed public accountants came in with language that would make it, not only certified, but licensed public accountants. There are about 30 of them in the state evidently. They are grandfathered in under our CPA laws and they are quite able to do these audits and so we would add, if you look at the handout, we would add licensed as well as certified public accountants to the committee amendments. Also, there is some lack of clarity on page 6 of this which we don't want to construe to authorize the auditor to come in and contract with any political subdivision. Right now that language on line 7 through 11 on page 6 of the committee amendments allows the Auditor of Public Accounts to contract with any political subdivision. We take that out and make it clear that he can contract with county or ESU units. Those are what we are specifically changing under the other statutes and so we want to make it clear that he can do that at this point. So it is clarifying amendments to make sure we don't have any problems with these committee amendments. The committee amendments do narrow the scope of the bill to just the problem we have now in court and I can talk further about some of the other problems involved, but I'll stop at that point, Mr. Speaker, and see that we adopt the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Pirsch, did you wish to speak to the Wesley amendment to the committee amendments?

SENATOR PIRSCH: Yes, I did...