

tell us just exactly what is in the bill because there isn't anybody here that can tell us everything that is in the bill. So with that, Mr. President, I will withdraw my motion.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The motion is withdrawn. Do you have anything else, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Vard Johnson and Senator Beutler would move to amend.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Chris, are you going to take that?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this is really the last chance, last chance to amend the bill and I think there are certain things that really you want to think about. And I would turn your attention now to page 20, Section 23 of the bill, and this has to do with the definition of employee. Now, remember, this all ties into employer-employee notifications of withhold and transmit, and this whole business of employer involvement, and this definition of employee includes any person who is compensated by the employer for services performed regardless of how much compensation is denominated, and then here is the language that I want to strike, "and shall include independent contractors who receive compensation for services." And similar language is stricken in another part of the bill where the reference is made to independent contractors. Now my problem is that maybe some of you who are independent contractors, or who deal with independent contractors could shed some more light on this, Senator Hannibal in particular perhaps, but under this language as I see it, if I were building a house, for example, and I hired a general contractor to build my house, it seems to me that that person is an employee of mine under this definition and then I can be sent a notice to withhold those contract payments and transmit them to Social Services to pay a child support lien. That is what the language seems to say to me. I think that is what it has to mean. Independent contractors are people you contract with to do work for you, and I suppose that that is there to try to avoid another loophole. I suppose it is possible in certain narrow categories to redefine employees as independent contractors and avoid the lien law, but it seems to me that if you just out-and-out include independent contractors of all types under the law, you are including under the law a