

that it's the credibility of the Legislature that we have at stake here because when you have people continue to addressing you and saying, what have you got to hide, it continues to bother you and think, what...really what do you have to hide. You know, Senator Chambers said we'll go to court so what do we have to lose, well, I'll tell you...or who is going to lose. Well, I'll tell you who is going to lose. The Legislature is going to lose because the people out there...and all you have to do is...and I'm sure all of you do, is read the editorials in the many papers across this state and see what the press is saying about us. As a result of that, I don't think we have a whole lot of choice in this but to pass the Landis amendment, to get on with our business and do things that are a heck of a lot more important than what we're spending our time on now. I'm sorry that this had to come about and I'm sure that many of the people in this body are...feel as I do, but, at the same time, as far as the Auditor is concerned, but I happen to think that he has to run for office just like we do and about all we've ever done since this issue came up is elevate him higher in his ranking as far as him trying to protect the people of this state. Well, I don't know if that's what he's trying to do and it doesn't really make any difference to me, but I think that we need to restore the credibility of this organization by allowing this audit to be done, getting it out of the way and get on with the work that needs to be done here. As I said before, it's unfortunate that it takes up this amount of time to resolve an issue that, in the eyes of many, is certainly a lot more important than it really...than it really is. So I guess, with that, I would have to say I will support the amendment and hope that the rest of you will and we'll get this out of the way and get on to better things. Thank you.

**PRESIDENT MOUL:** Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Hall.

**SENATOR HALL:** Thank you, Madam President, members, again, I rise in opposition to the Landis amendment. The arguments that Senator Landis made were based on the issue that it was something that the public perception dictated. Senator Vrtiska went on to say that the press, through the editorial writers, have told us that this is outrageous and this is something that we have to do. Senator Landis said we have to submit to a critic. I would argue, ladies and gentlemen, that if we submit to a critic today, we will submit to every critic every week, every month, every term, every session that the Legislature is down here, that we don't have the ability, let alone should we