

SENATOR ROBINSON: Thank you.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Does anyone else wish to speak to the bill? Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Would Senator Hall answer a couple of questions, please.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Yes.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you. Senator Hall, the Executive Board will make the decision on who to contract with for the audit, as I understand it, and how will they go about making that decision?

SENATOR HALL: Senator Bromm, we will probably go the same route that we did with the per diem. We went to a bid process, contacted a number of audit firms. In this case we will contact the Auditor's Office as well, give them the specific requirements that we would be looking for, and ask that they submit a bid to the Executive Board to be reviewed. And then at that point in time, I would guess that the Exec Board would analyze those and decide which of them they wanted to bring in to talk to about the process, and then make a decision. But those would be done I believe in an open public meeting like we transact 99 percent of our business.

SENATOR BROMM: So the Exec Board would draw the specs, if you will, or the criteria, and then you would solicit or seek bids, proposals from various accounting firms, or make it available probably to any accounting firm who would want to bid on the job, is that right?

SENATOR HALL: Well, any accounting firm that met certain criteria. It would have to be somebody that was qualified to do it but, yes.

SENATOR BROMM: Okay, and those qualifications would be determined by the Exec Board?

SENATOR HALL: Well, frankly, we'd just probably use the highest