

reduces the threshold for items that are not considered gifts from 50 to 25, and expands occasional travel exception to the gift definition to include official staff. Also, and I think a very important provision adds language that the Executive Board shall develop procedures to guide and govern ethical considerations for members of the Legislature. There are a good number of amendments filed on this bill, I would hazard a guess that there's 10 or 12 of them, some of them haven't even been filed that possibly could be, and including Senator Chambers' amendment, which I just don't understand, about a chicken wing and a biscuit. Some have said to me that they will pull their amendments, they do not want to stop the bill. A few others have made no commitment, so I cannot predict what will happen today, but I would like to say I know some folks hate this bill, and I know that some think it doesn't go too far. Probably we've got a good compromise bill here. I feel comfortable with it, and I would really like to see it passed if for one reason only, and that is then Common Cause can't keep saying that lobbyists spend \$250,000 a year entertaining 49 state senators when it isn't true. There are \$250,000 approximately spent on lobbying expenses, but not on state senators directly. So, with that, I would...I would ask the Speaker to proceed.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Schimek. We do have several amendments, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first amendment is by Senator Bromm. Senator, AM3388. (Bromm amendment may be found on page 1009 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, senators. This is the revolving door amendment that came through the Government Committee, it came out of committee over a year ago, I think it was a six to one vote. The bill, as 601, has sat on General File since that time, and it had been my hope to have a good discussion on the bill. The bill simply says now, and it was amended in committee, and I agree with the amendment, that there would be a two-year waiting period following service in the Legislature by a member of the Legislature before they could lobby. It also grandfathered in or exempted any former senator who might have been registered as a lobbyist prior to the effective date of the bill. I would like to say that in the committee hearing there were probably upwards of 50 or 60 people