

We'll wait. Senator Lynch, to open on your amendment.

SENATOR LYNCH: Thank you, Mr. President, members. The amendment is being passed out. I turned it in last night. We copied it though to pass it out today, and I'd just like to explain to you what it includes. There are five parts of the amendment. It is an important amendment, and it deals with policy and ethics as it applies to all principals in state government. I don't know about you, but I get a little tired of people assuming that 1,000 dollar a year elected officials are the only ones that should be subject to ethics. In my opinion, I think hundred thousand dollars, we figure administrators, directors, even unpaid commission members who are subject to the responsibility and maybe the temptation that goes along with ethics and the reason for this bill should also be included. So, if you will follow along with me, this includes a definition in the definition of an official in the executive branch, or an administrator, a faculty member, or a staff member of a state college or a state university. Now the reason I did this was that the Supreme Court, in fact, has interpreted a definition of who an official is, and an administrator, and a member of the executive branch. If you all remember, we had a senator by the name of Jerry Conway, who was told he couldn't serve in the Legislature and teach school at the same time because he was an administrator. It's already been determined by the Supreme Court, so I assume anybody who works in the same capacity at the university level is an administrator and should be subject to these same criteria and the same kind of ethics responsibilities. Secondly, it adds to the list of individuals that must file a statement of financial interest an individual holding an administrative or a faculty position with a state college or a state university. What they will have to do is file a conflict of interest statement, and why not. Why shouldn't they? I think we all should be subject to these kinds of things. Number three, it creates a new section which establishes the same gift restrictions on entities doing business with a government body and employees of a government body that concurrently exists for lobbyists, and Legislature and the executive branch, and it also develops a definition of government body. This is all new language and it would preclude that if somebody wants to take somebody to lunch for more than \$25, especially if they are a university professor over in Hong Kong, Tokyo, or Japan where it costs \$300 for a hamburger, they probably would have to cover the responsibility for those costs. Fourthly, it includes a list of individuals in the list