

1 out that when this issue of public employees was brought  
2 up in our Committee there was, in fact, a majority of  
3 the members of our Committee who wanted to relieve the  
4 problems that had been raised before us about public  
5 employees. The problem was that the Chairman put the  
6 question so badly that nobody ever got a chance to vote  
7 on it. I might point out that the testimony that we  
8 heard was that public employees had sought to bargain  
9 collectively and their employees and that public employees  
10 wanted to bargain collectively and their employers wanted  
11 to bargain with them, but they said the case law prevented  
12 them from bargaining.

13 We felt that we could free the legislature's  
14 hands so that they could, in fact, provide for negotiations  
15 between employees of the state and the government.

16 I might point out that this would fall into  
17 the category of a technical provision because this would  
18 be a prohibition against the state from preventing the  
19 state from negotiating with its employees. At the  
20 time they are not permitted to negotiate with their  
21 employees.