

chance this bill passes you want it in the least worst possible form that it could be. But I really think that the bill is not meritorious. I don't think there are the votes in this body to pass it right now, maybe there are, maybe there are not, but I think that is where the real...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: ...debate should take place. It should take place on the underlying concept, the entire philosophy of the bill and we shouldn't spend a lot of time quibbling about amendments, something that could have been done off the floor of the Legislature, something that should have been done in the committee before it was advanced out...or before it was taken to the floor. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Ashford, on the motion to bracket.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Just briefly again, Mr. Speaker and members. I just would take....I have some problems with Senator McFarland's characterization of quibbling over the language. I think that what in fact that we've done is made an honest effort to make some good changes in the...and good faith changes in the language to make it more specific to accomplish some of the problems or to get at some of the problems that have been raised by Senator Hall, and quite frankly to make a better bill in good faith. So I don't think, looking at this honestly and dealing with it honestly, it's quibbling. And specifically on the motion to bracket, this is what we call in the legal profession an Oklahoma offer, you know sort of the idea that here is our deal and if you go along with it, if you go along with this, we'll go along with the bill, and then all of a sudden, well, that is not quite good enough, let's bracket the bill. And I just think that really is not dealing in good faith with a matter that is of such great importance. I think Senator Landis is absolutely correct, and that is that the principle, the principle of this bill has been clearly delineated. There may be some additional changes in the language later on, but the principle of the bill has been delineated. I think that it is time to vote up or down on it. It doesn't serve...It serves absolutely no legitimate purpose to bracket this bill at this point at all, because there are people on both sides of the issue dealing with it on an on-going basis, and there are two other opportunities for this body to look at changes or amendments. So I just think that is in a sense somewhat