

with Item 7 on the agenda, Select File.

CLERK: Madam President, the Legislature discussed LB 922 yesterday. At that time Enrollment and Review amendments were adopted, as was an amendment from Senator Withem. The first amendment I have to the bill this morning is by Senator Bernard-Stevens. (See FA305 on page 1260 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. It is not my intention to take a long time on this particular amendment. If for some reason the amendment does take a long time, I will withdraw the amendment as I think it is important that we get to a vote and advance 922 with or without this particular amendment. So I want to go on record as saying that if it does take time and we cannot...it appears we cannot get to a vote by ten, I will withdraw it so that we can get to a vote on 922. In my judgment, 922 is an excellent bill, and I know Jim Kubik very well from Norfolk. He has worked very hard. Senator Chambers has taken the lead on the bill, 922, as offered as his priority bill, and it is an excellent bill, and one that deserves to be in law. There is one change I, personally, would like to see the Legislature talk about so that we can make a policy decision on the best way to handle that, and, specifically, my amendment deals with Section 3, subparagraph (2). At this particular point, it basically says, as it has been amended, that each year a school district will provide evidence on multicultural education pursuant to the previous sections, and if it is not doing the multicultural education, they would lose their accreditation. I particularly have no problem in being very tough and firm on a multicultural education, and I can give an example in my North Platte area just recently that causes me to even be more supportive of the bill, 922, if that is even possible. In North Platte, for example, there is a...over the years there has been a lot of discussion and sometimes negatively so, unfortunately, concerning Americans of Japanese descent, particularly when the Prime Minister of Japan made his...or the Cultural Minister of Japan, I believe, made the statement that American workers are lazy and illiterate and what have you. One of the companies in North Platte, they thought they'd do a clever idea and do a commercial on the radio that signified a very negative stereotype of a Japanese individual, and playing upon the fact