

General File, very abbreviated debate on Select File, and that was that. My point is simply that the people of the state are better off and we are better off in representing them to spend that block of time on Select File debate and on General File debate on trying to hear some bills that get buried and not spending the time on Final Reading. I would ask you to take a look at Exhibits 2 and 3 in the packet of materials that I gave you. I tried to indicate to you what is happening in other states, and as you can see, there are 98 existing legislative bodies, excluding Nebraska's. 79 do not require reading at large on Final Reading and the remaining 19, the last three being just recently researched, that is why the figure is crossed out and written in, the other 19 routinely suspend the rules to dispense with reading at large. Well, as you are aware, we can't suspend our rules here because the requirement is in the Constitution. Exhibit 3, the next page, simply shows you what some of the surrounding states do and some of them read by request only and some of them have no Final Reading as such and allow no request. Most of them do allow for a request which would be simply what we are going to do. The last page, Exhibit 4, just outlines some additional arguments I feel in favor of the bill and you might want to glance through them at your leisure. So I think those are basically the arguments in favor of what I am trying to do and I hope you will give me your support. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I certainly support Senator Beutler in his endeavor. Now if there is some concern about one member of the Legislature being able to request or only needing one member to request Final Reading, I suppose that could be changed to a different number so that we certainly would read the bills that certain individuals want read. But I think the way we are doing it now, and I certainly find no fault with Clerk O'Donnell. I think he does a great job but we still can't understand him and I believe it is foolishness to read the bills unless you are going to read them audibly and legibly so we can understand them as he goes along. I would much rather have that time that we spend in Final Reading for something else as Senator Beutler has mentioned. Even if we use an hour a day during the session just to go to our offices and study the bills, I know I would gain much more from it than to hear that mumbling that is going on when we have Final Reading. And the other thing, of course, is that people that come to visit us during Final Reading wonder what kind of people we are that we let this happen and spend all that time with mumbo jumbo and I agree, and as