

move it over there. We will have enough time then to address any particular amendments that someone brings that this body thinks would be beneficial to the outcome of this bill and we would spend it there. Not to advance it, basically, is...would be a process of not affirming what we did last year and I think the body, as a group, felt last year was the right thing to do. We had a very delicate balance with that bill and in a process by which we negotiated both sides, we had very technical expertise in helping us put this bill together when...last year when we brought in the dean of the law school and Chief Justice Krivosha who did the drafting on the bill. We came up with a bill that we think will fit very well but, like I say, there has been some new found strength by virtue of the Governor's veto on the part of people who probably thought that they had negotiated away a little bit more than what they found totally necessary relative to their own self-serving perspective on how changes in our law should come about. But I would appreciate it very much if the body does not want to bracket to honor Speaker Barrett's desire not to bottle up the system, let us progress normally but we will have that opportunity at Select File to debate any amendments that will be put on the desk at that time. At this time, the bill is in its purest form just as it was passed by this body last year. There has been no changes to it. The green copy this year, literally, is the gold copy of last year. So we're not reaching out into a very dangerous category if we had confidence in what we did last year as a body, but I am very amenable to discussing between General File and Select File what amendments may come forward and would pledge myself to listen to all considerations and those that we agree to between now and Select File we will...I will certainly argue for on Select File for those meaningful amendments that may come forward. But, in the meantime, I hope the body does not simply thwart the concept by not advancing it to Select File since that was your choice.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Ashford, please, followed by Senator McFarland.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, I just want to reiterate one point and I don't think we need to belabor the bill too much at this point because I think there will be some changes on Select File that most everyone can agree to and will help the bill and make the bill possibly more clear in some areas. But remember that the bill...the changes that are being suggested to the bill are changes which were not brought to me ever, first of all, and are now being suggested within the last