

the city \$100,000 by doing that. I think that's reasonable to look as an interim measure at the very least and then maybe we could go on and do these other things, but that's not the issue before us. Finally, what Senator Schimek, as I understand, has done with her amendment is to replace the stagger, as I...I just...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: ...talked to Senator Schimek and I'm not sure, but effectively that would be gutting the bill. And the other things that are left in there dealing with county boundary lines and such are basically just codifying what we are already supposed to do in law anyway in saying this time we really mean you will do that kind of thing and no political things will be used. The...Senator Lynch has asked me to respond that...whose idea was this. It came to us from the City of Omaha. It came to us through the City of Omaha's lobbyist with the concurrence of the city council and the mayor. For all those reasons, I think that the bill does no harm and possibly could do a lot of good and save some money. I think it's a relatively minor measure that needs to be taken. I will support the passage.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I would like to say that I don't have any wish to get involved in Omaha procedures and politics. However, as somebody who has been involved in the political process for a long time, I was very concerned that this bill was rushing through consideration without raising at least some flags. Senator Chambers, I am very supportive of district elections and any bill that you want to bring before the Legislature concerning district elections you'll probably get my support on. The thing about this bill that bothers me is that I cannot think of another elective body that is chosen at one time for a period of four years. Now Senator Hannibal says, and Senator Chambers says that that is the way it has been done before and that may be, but I do think it leaves the door open for a lot of mischief when an elected body and a mayor are elected for that length of time without the possibility really of citizen input except through a recall process. Now, granted, the House of Representatives is all picked at the same time, but they are picked for a period of two years only and to counterbalance the House of Representatives you also have the United States Senate. What we're talking