

reconsideration but I didn't. And if I felt like Ernie, I didn't support the bill and if you don't have your politics together and your votes here, that's your fault, you shouldn't move to reconsider it. But I did want to let you five senators know, who did give me support to reconsider that bill but could not vote for it, that I appreciate that consideration. As far as this bill is specifically concerned as it involves county boards, those 20 some years I was on the county board, I was elected three different ways, by the way. Every time that happened, it happened as a result of state legislation. We ran by district, both in the primary and the general. We ran by district in the primary and the general at large and then we ran at large. Every time it was changed by the Legislature for whatever political reasons that might be and it only applied and affected Douglas County. So it is not unique that we've gotten involved in Douglas County politics. I'd just like to suggest that the more I think about this, the best thing for all of us to do, and forgive me, Senator Schimek, is to probably vote against your amendment so we can get on with the business and then vote against the bill because it really does nothing. It is a peanut bill, it is a hangnail bill, it's a nothing bill. You're not going to turn any more people out. They're going to spend a million dollars probably trying to get elected mayor and there won't be more than 40,000 people in a town of 400,000 going to elect them. We...just leave it alone. Leave it happen. Don't change it. Some day, maybe, if somebody introduces legislation so that they run at the same time with the other constitutional officeholders, that would be pretty good. Then more people will vote because it is convenient for them, first of all, but secondly, there might even be some more interest. But just so you remember, some people like these staggered elections also because it gives them a chance when they are not running for office to run for something else and still keep the job they've got. You know, that could have probably something to do with it, why they don't want to be elected at general elections with everybody else. So let it go. I'm sorry, Senator Schimek, but just to move the thing along, I'll vote against your amendment, but I'd vote against the bill. It's really unnecessary.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Wesely, please. Question has been called. Five hands, I do see. Shall debate now cease? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.