

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate ceases. Senator Schimek, would you care to close on your motion to return to Select File?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Mr. Chairman and members of the body, I don't intend to keep you more than another minute, but, as a former history teacher and civics teacher, I have to say that I think there were good reasons for mandating a two-year term for House members and staggered term for the Senate and I acknowledge, Senator Chambers, that that Constitution wasn't perfect and, in fact, in order to get it adopted we had to adopt 10 amendments to it in the form of the Bill of Rights originally and since that time, of course, we have adopted other amendments to improve the document. But that document still stands on the election process as far as the length of terms are concerned and the reason for that, I believe, was that the framers of the document thought that it would be beneficial for people to have as much influence over the House as possible because the House was the body that dealt with the purse strings and they wanted to have the opportunity to tell their government every couple of years how they felt about issues. I think that you could probably use that same rationale for applicability to city council races. I think that four-year terms are too long. The people need a more systematic form of input into their city government. So, with that, I would just recommend that you vote in favor of my amendment which would do away with the unstaggered election position. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The question before the body is the adoption of the Schimek motion to return to Select File. Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, please.

CLERK: 8 ayes, 22 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to return the bill for a specific amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The motion fails. Anything else on the bill, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: I have no further motions on LB 165, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: In the opinion of the Chair then, we are to proceed to the Final Reading vote on the passage of LB 165. Members will please return to their seats. (Gavel.) Those members, if any, outside the Legislative Chambers, please return