

policy and I don't really think that this probably is good policy. I think that if we bracket this bill, have an interim study this summer and fall, that that would be the way to go. We can answer...we can find the answers of some of the questions that we have. So I would encourage you to support the bracket motion at this time.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schellpeper, please.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. President, and members. I also rise to support the bracket. I am really in favor of the idea. I think that Senator Baack has a very good idea here. It is something we need to look at. If you look at Minnesota, everybody has been talking about Minnesota this morning. Their smallest school in Minnesota is over 400 students. The smallest school in Nebraska is probably five students, maybe smaller than that. Minnesota funds their schools by state funding. We fund ours by property tax. I think these are some things we need to take into consideration, and if we are really going to come out with a bill that we can all be proud of, it isn't going to hurt to set their one more year, study it and work on it, and come out with a product that we are all proud of, and I think we can do that. I think that this is a very good idea. It needs to just be studied for the summer and it will work. I am just positive that it will, but I just think we are going too fast if we try to push it through this morning. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, please, followed by...the question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Debate has ceased. Senator Dierks, would you like to close on your motion, please?

SENATOR DIERKS: Yes, Mr. President and members of the body, very briefly, I am really very sorry if I have ruffled some feathers, and I hope you understand that that is not my intent. I did not intend to do that. I just feel like, as big a move as this is, as big a change as we are talking about, that we are making the move too quickly, and I, basically, have support for this, the whole concept, I just have too many questions that need to be answered and I don't think we are getting them