

seconds? I do. All those in support of ceasing debate vote aye, those opposed no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

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

SENATOR LAMB: Debate has ceased. Senator Barrett, to close.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, the bill itself makes a procedural change in our existing statutes. I like the bill for several reasons, most of which I have already enumerated. I want good teachers in this state, good administrators in our Nebraska schools, like the rest of us, and this bill will help do just that. I want all school districts to have competent teachers, professional people. That's something we all want. But if somebody has a complaint against a teacher or school administrator, then fairness and due process demands that both parties' rights are protected and that, again, is what this bill does. It doesn't change the standards of ethical behavior or competence, necessarily, it merely means that something...it makes the standards mean something because we're improving the procedure for effective enforcement. Actually, I think at this point, Mr. President, I would again urge the body to advance the bill and I would like to provide Senator Withem, I guess, with the remaining time I might have. Senator Withem.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Barrett, for a moment of your closing time. I, too, support the bill and urge the body to amend...to advance it to Select File. I did want just a second or two to respond to some of the things Senator McFarland was saying. I think he raises some good points and I think it will be valuable to have the discussion that he is speaking of...speaking with. In many ways, he is right that you're not going to write a bill that guarantees that only valid complaints will be pursued and the trivial ones will be set aside. We're attempting to do that to state legislative intent on what we want to see happen and by adopting the committee amendments I think we have done that. The committee amendments though do not guarantee that there will be no trivial complaints filed. There will be. Hopefully, by direction of the Legislature, we will be directing the writing of the rules and regulations so that they will more specifically spell out what will be pursued and what won't and in real practice what will happen will be whether