

SPEAKER BARRETT: The amendment is adopted. Next item.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Coordsen would move to amend the bill. (Coordsen amendment appears on page 391 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator George Coordsen, please.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body, this amendment again is while it is fairly lengthy, is relatively simple. I didn't distribute a copy of it. The bill drafters had told me that when they looked at it I had far too much verbiage in the bill, so I will read the effective language of the amendment. And on page 38 following line 24 I would insert a new section. It would be section 3. "The Attorney General shall, not later than 10 days after the effective date of this act, file an action in the Nebraska Supreme Court, seeking a declaratory judgment on the constitutionality of this act and the various parts hereof. The Nebraska Supreme Court shall advance said action on its docket ahead of other pending litigation to the extent necessary to enable the court to render its judgment on this action not later than December 31, 1990." Reason for asking that this amendment be adopted, from time to time through the history of the Legislature we adopt measures that we think are constitutional, that we think we know what is contained in the bill, we think we know how it would work out when it is put into practice. Given the time lines, and I realize that we did extend that just a little bit, this amendment would remove from some group of citizens a question as to the constitutionality of this should they want to challenge and put the onus on the State of Nebraska to before the implementing date, have a ruling on the constitutionality of the various sections. So I would move the adoption of this amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Withem, would you care to discuss the Coordsen amendment to the bill?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I would, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to, first of all, ask Senator Coordsen a question or two if I could about the intent of the amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Coordsen.