

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Just briefly, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I, too, will be supporting the amendment. However, I do have a little bit of a concern where we take the funding out, and I certainly understand why we need to do that, and the political ramifications and realities, but I also want to also suggest to the body that what will probably happen in my estimation is that those districts that are very progressive, those districts that have the financing that can afford to do the planning, to do the getting the people together, that have the finances to be able to cover some of those things, what you will find, I think, is that only those districts will be the ones taking advantage of it, and restructuring, if it is going to work, is something that needs to be statewide in a variety of circumstances, in a variety of districts in different size, different class, and different economic needs, and so I suggest to the Legislature that if LB 960 does, in fact, pass this year and signed by the Governor into law, that we look and see what has happened in the area of restructuring in the upcoming years and that we go back and see if we can make something work on a statewide basis that would be more helpful to some of those districts that may not be able to take advantage of the situation as it will be presented to them after this bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Anything further? Senator Withem, any closing? Thank you. The question is the adoption of the Withem amendment to LB 960. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Withem's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Lindsay.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Mr. President, I move that LB 960, as amended, be advanced to E & R for engrossment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Is there discussion? Seeing none, those in favor of the motion to advance the bill say aye. Opposed no. Carried. LB 960 is advanced. To the A bill, Mr. Clerk.