

CLERK: Mr. President, 931 was a bill introduced by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee and signed by its members. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 3 of this year, at that time referred to the Government Committee for public hearing. I do have committee amendments pending, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Baack, please.

SENATOR BAACK: Yes, Mr. President and colleagues, LB 931 was a result...resulted from last summer when there was a ruling...a letter written by the Attorney General to Secretary of State Allen Beermann. And in the letter the Attorney General stated that it was his opinion that an NRD board member who was subsequently elected to a Class I school board had automatically vacated his seat on the NRD board and this was based on the statute that provides that you can only hold one elective office in the State of Nebraska. The green copy of LB 931 was introduced and we had a public hearing on that. The committee was not very well pleased with the green copy of 931 and we simply introduced a bill so that we could have a public hearing. I think that the committee struggled with this for quite a while in an Executive Session trying to decide what we wanted to do with this issue and how we were going to deal with this issue. If you look at the green copy, you will see what the green copy did. It said that you could hold one certain kind of office but you couldn't hold another kind of office and it kind of provided a list, a grocery list of things that you could serve two offices in. The committee was not comfortable with that. We said that there was no real rationale for doing that and providing that kind of a laundry list. Instead what the committee did, and these are what the committee amendments are, it says, with two exceptions, any person that's holding one elective office could hold any other elective office in the state. This is the only thing that we could come up with to deal with this problem and it is a problem that we need to deal with immediately because there are a lot of people out there who are holding two offices now who are kind of left in limbo and that is one of the reasons that we need to deal with this in this session. The two exceptions to the rule are that legislators, members of the Legislature and constitutional officers could only one elective office. Those are the only two exceptions to the rule. Those are...it also provides in the Constitution that legislators and constitutional officers cannot hold two offices. I think that with that it's a very simple