

April 4, 1990

LB 1141  
LR 239

from Stromsburg. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you for visiting us today. Senator Withem, please, followed by Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, frankly, I am probably going to vote in favor of the Chambers amendment. I don't think any reference to political party has a whole lot to do with the Constitution. The Legislature can set these standards I think in future years in enabling legislation, so I am going to support the Chambers amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, followed by Senator Hall.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Withem said one of the two points that I was going to mention, Mr. President, and members of the body, and that is, again, if this 239CA would actually get the 30 votes necessary to pass on Final Reading, and, of course, that is making a big assumption that it will actually move from Select to Final, if that would happen, all would be out there is that the public would be able to analyze the concept. There would be a tremendous give and take of debate I think statewide. There would be a lot of focus, a lot of attention, hopefully, there would be anyway, and, hopefully, the people then would have a good decision or a good idea of what they wanted to do when it came to a vote. And then that vote would take place. After that vote would take place, then, obviously, we are going to have to look at LB 1141, if it had, in fact, passed this session, do we want to go back and make some changes? Or if it had not passed this session, obviously, we are going to have to put in the enacting legislation, and these things could be handled at that time. But for the sake of discussion on LB 239CA (sic), on the amendment, I, too, agree with the amendment. It was an amendment that was discussed quite thoroughly in the Education Committee after the hearings, and a lot of give and take was taking place on the particular amendment, particularly the patronage that was taking place, whether it be with the current Governor we have now, or a previous Governor we have had in the past, that they're more interested with the political party, "thank you's" on their appointments. But the discussion also pointed down to the fact that that's what Governors are there to do, to hopefully do what is best for the State of Nebraska. And I would hate to be in a position where we actually have a qualified person or somebody that is terribly unique to put on one of these appointed