

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you. And first, Senator Wesely, I appreciate your comments. You do bring up a valid point, and if ever I can be helpful working with you on that other issue, I'd be delighted to do so. The amendment actually was picked up, that I have offered, was picked up by the committee counsel for the Government Committee, and what was neglected to do is on the second page, we changed everything by the committee amendments that was agreed to by the body to put a floor of 7,000, so anything under 7,000 would be able to have a choice to have an election if they so desired. Page 2 was a petition process that we neglected to change and this amendment simply changes the numbers that were there on the old law and changes it to reflect the new law of 7,000, and that is the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Is there discussion on the Bernard-Stevens amendment? Senator Hefner, Senator Hefner, your light is on, did you wish to discuss this amendment? Okay. Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I feel compelled to comment on this amendment just briefly in my roll as the E & R Chair. Senator Bernard-Stevens brought this discrepancy in the statutes to my attention yesterday, and I checked with the E & R staff, and they actually had reviewed the bill and determined that while this was a logical amendment changing the population in a different part of the statute to make it jibe with what we are doing in the other part that it was not an appropriate thing for E & R to do. And Senator Bernard-Stevens and I visited and decided that the appropriate way to go about it was through an amendment of this type. So I would support the Bernard-Stevens amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Will. Is there further discussion on the Bernard-Stevens amendment? Seeing none, Senator Bernard-Stevens, do you wish to close? He waives closing. We will now proceed to a vote on the Bernard-Stevens amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment is adopted.