

who, in many cases,...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...could not afford to run a campaign at large? I think we ought to take a look at that. The amendment that I'm considering offering would mesh the two, would be one that would say you would have five districts that are elected by district, you would have two office holders, two county board members that would run at large. And that would give every district the opportunity to vote on at least three members of a seven member makeup. Don't have that amendment drafted. Talked about it to those people on either side, neither side really likes it all that much, so it must have some merit to it. I would like to see the bill moved today over to Select File and draft that amendment for consideration at that point in time. I'm going to continue to support the bill, probably no matter what form it takes, because I think the issue here is...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR HALL: ...one of representation by people throughout the county, not just those that can afford to run.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Labeledz, do you want to speak on the amendment to the amendment?

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Madam President. I rise in support of Senator Lynch's bill, although I'm a little bit concerned about raising the amount of commissioners from five to seven because of the expense. But it does draw the districts closer together, and I will support Senator Lynch's amendment because I...my accountability issue, for me, is a lot stronger than the expense, although I know that I have talked to several people in groups in Omaha, many of them said, why are they doing this to us; why don't they put it on the ballot and let the people of Douglas County decide how they want to be governed. And perhaps that might be one of the amendments that I will decide to put on on Select File. Unfortunately, I don't have it prepared right now. But I will be supporting Senator Lynch's amendment because I think it's a lot better than LB 789, as amended, at the present time. I still am concerned about the expense. And I must tell you that the Douglas County Commissioners meet every Tuesday morning at nine o'clock. Within an hour sometimes, or an hour and a half, two hours, they are complete, they're done.