

amendment, which would be a lot better than the original bill as amended by the committee. Thank you.

**SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING**

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Labeledz. Is there any other discussion on the amendment to the committee amendments by Senator Lynch? Seeing none, Senator Lynch, do you wish to close?

**SENATOR LYNCH:** Mr. Speaker and members, I know that this amendment, or the bill itself might be of very little interest to an awful lot of people here on the floor. But I offered this amendment seriously. I didn't do it just to play some kind of a game with the existing county board members. I did it because I've lived through this experience before. And as a County Commissioner in Douglas County I've had the Legislature change how I ran. I was never asked whether it was a good idea when they tried to change it, they just wanted to change it. The reasons were generally political. And this is no different. And there's nothing wrong with that at all, because that is, in fact, what we are. In this case before it had to do with trying to work out something where there could be at least more Republicans on the county board rather than Democrats. In this case it has to do with trying to recognize a need for better representation on the board as it applies to race or gender. We can continue to change laws that provide for that sensitivity, but I suggest, if we do that, fine. I have no problem with that. But let's supply it whenever we can, and wherever we can as possible as well. I went along with the seven because if, in fact, that does provide the opportunity for at least one black member on the county board, fine. It won't guarantee the member of a woman or anyone else, as we all know that. In fact it won't guarantee anything, it's hard to say for sure. We could elect somebody that would satisfy the intent of the law, but it could be someone who maybe Ernie or somebody else doesn't like. I'm sure that is not a concern of Ernie's at the present time. What concerns me more than anything else, for those of you who may be listening, is the inference that a majority of those who are white, I guess, and vote are absolutely insensitive to other kinds of minorities. I'd like to respectfully suggest to Ernie and anybody else that that's a bunch of hogwash. It might be true in the case of some, but to infer that Ernie couldn't get elected if he ran county wide, or other black's couldn't get elected if they ran county wide, leaves the impression that in