

January 22, 1992 LB 522

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Well, that is a difference of opinion, but I would, obviously, yield to your superior judgment being chairman of the committee.

SENATOR CHIZEK: I appreciate that.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: You are welcome, sir. A couple of comments, Mr. President, members of the body, the amendment is a good attempt, and, Senator Chizek, you have my utmost respect for trying to make a ridiculous bill better. Unfortunately, you bring it up to the level of just real bad, but you bring it up a tremendous notch. What Senator Chizek is trying to do is make as many people happy as possible, and that actually by doing so do nothing, which is, in likelihood, maybe the best thing that could happen. Senator Chizek is asking the body, and if the members of the body would just kind of listen for a second, Senator Chizek is saying by this amendment that there is a problem with the bill asking for fingerprints, this body will not go along with that. So Senator Chizek has drafted a bill, an amendment which simply says if there is any fingerprinting involved, we won't do anything. What I have not mentioned on the floor, particularly, is I have talked to the FBI myself. I have talked to the same people that the OPS people are talking to, and I have asked them point blank if I stated the following point on the floor of the Legislature, would I be in error, and their comment was, no, Senator, you would be absolutely correct. And those comments that I asked if I could say and I am about to say now are as following: Will the FBI even consider changing their format of not allowing fingerprints for background checks in the future, now or in the near future or distant future, and their comeback was, Senator, we will not. Let me repeat that, the people in Washington, D.C. stated they will not budge on that rule and requirement. With that information, this bill is moot. This bill is moot because the amendment, basically, says if anyone does require a fingerprint, we are not going to do anything. So what are we trying to do here this morning? All we are trying to do is to solve a political problem that OPS has, a public relations problem that they feel...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...they need to hire even a legal authority to come down and help push the cause, and that cause is, what happens in the case of liability? What happens if we