

federal law because that federal law can change, it's uncertain about what all that may require of us and so we have, in the past, in fact, when I first came in here we never were allowed to specifically reference a specific federal law in terms of a general sort of blanket statement. And we now have tended to go away from that. There are some instances where we do cite some federal law and so that precedent has been broken to some degree. But, in my view, the original thought that you're always very cautious about referencing a federal law still is something to be very cautious about and so that's...that's been something that I would like to raise as well. In any event, we don't lose from where the bill wants to go, we don't lose from what the bill attempts to accomplish. This is something more, and in addition to it. It's an appendage that is, I'm sure, well intended but, at the same time, raises questions that I don't think can be answered and haven't been answered, and I would ask your support for the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. The Chair recognizes Senator Pirsch. Senator Pirsch. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? The question before you is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye. All those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Debate is ceased. We are on the committee amendments. Senator Wesely, do you wish to close?

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Madam Chairman and members, again, I appreciate the dialogue that we've had on this because it is important. What is our relationship with the federal government in terms of federal law? What is our relationship in terms of liability and entitlement questions that will come up later in the session? I think, obviously, caution is something to be wary of when you delve into some of these issues that uncertainty prevails in. But, at the same time, we are certain about the specific problems that were addressed by Senator Crosby's bill. We leave intact the effort that she has undertaken here to address those specific problems, but, again, the concern is that this specific language is above and beyond what the original intent of the bill was. The other elements that we retain address the concerns about the hearing impaired commission, working with the Department of Public Institutions, working to solve the problems that have been identified,