

shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

CLERK: 16 ayes, 13 nays to cease debate.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Debate does not cease. Senator Kristensen, your light is next.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. You know, I enjoy Senator Wesely, he's one of my favorites on the floor because he says things that always entertain me and make me think. And I'm glad that we did pass the law in 1991 so you had the opportunity to meet Vice President Gore. (Laughter.) You know, I hadn't really thought of that at the time, and that's probably one of...I'm tempted, Senator Bernard-Stevens, to withdraw it for that reason because maybe, I don't know, I don't know who else might come. Unfortunately, what happens is that so often we do things with very good intentions. And in all honesty, quite frankly, this Legislature, those who voted for the bill in 1991, I think, did have some good intentions in mind, obviously was to stimulate interest in presidential elections, and that, hopefully, with the threat, well, not with the threat but with the opportunity to come and get one more electoral vote that maybe someone else would come to the state, maybe they'd show us a little more attention. And they did come to the state. They refueled several times, I'm sure, as they flew across the country, and they had the opportunity as they flew over to wave at us and we were really appreciative of the travel that took place in this state, but they didn't come. In what should have been perhaps one of the closest presidential elections in this decade, we didn't even see the candidates, and if they did, it was just for a brief stop in, I believe, Omaha. Certainly we didn't see them in the rest of the state. And the purpose...if the purpose is, and I don't suggest to you that the sole purpose for passing this bill was to attract more people to come to the State of Nebraska in presidential elections, but if it was, certainly that does not, in what would have been the best opportunity to do so, it didn't occur. And so what we've done, in effect, is that in the best year that it didn't occur that somebody was going to come visit this state and show us some extra attention, they didn't do it, then I suggest to you what's really going on is that we've tried an experiment out here that until there's a crisis we won't change, and I'm telling you it's too late. You don't want that crisis to occur. You do not want the State of