

SPEAKER WITHEM: The motion then has been withdrawn. Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Is it all right if I get up.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Excuse me, Senator Maurstad, I understand there is another amendment on the desk, so with that we will wait a second here.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Bernard-Stevens would move to amend, AM0065, Senator. (See page 761 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Bernard-Stevens. The call is raised. Senator Bernard-Stevens, you are recognized to open on your amendment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. This particular amendment, and I neglected to ask the Clerk if they could have copies made to have it handed out. I would appreciate that. This particular amendment is, basically, a compromise. You know, and I say compromise, Senator Kristensen will smile and say compromise among who, I have got the 25 votes, and why do I need to compromise? Compromise in the nature of what is intended is to say, look, we've got a very, very closely split bill, that even if 25 votes or 26 votes remain, the issue may come back certainly again, and there may be 25 or 26 votes the other way. Two years ago there were votes to do it the way it is now. Now there is probably not the votes to maintain it. Two years from now there may be the votes to go back. It is kind of silly. What we need to really be doing is saying, look, what, in fact, is the best process, and is the process that we now have, is it working. Well, Senator Kristensen will argue that it is not working, it was a joke. Senator Schimek will argue, well, it has worked just like it was supposed to. What this amendment basically does is says the following, I believe it is 2006, which would give it four election cycles including the last election we just had. This, basically, says that the bill that we...the law that we currently have now would stay into effect until the year 2006, and then it would automatically sunset, which means that if you want to go back to the way that it was, it would automatically go that way in the year 2006. If Senator Schimek were still in the body, or someone else where in the body at that point, they