

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of Senator Beutler's amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Beutler amendment is adopted. Senator Abboud would like to announce that the following guest is visiting the Legislature today, John Doyle, Jr. from Omaha is here under the north balcony. Will you please stand and be recognized. Welcome. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Beutler, AM0928, Senator. (Amendment appears on pages 1070-71 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, you will have passed out to you in just a moment this particular amendment and I hope that we can have a philosophic discussion on this particular amendment because it proposes something that I really think is going to need to be a part of the initiative process in the future because of the creation of paid circulators and the ability of paid circulators to easily put petitions on the ballot as demonstrated by the term limits proposition of not so long ago. Let me just read to you the amendment and what it does, it inserts into the process that is set up in LB 337 another proposition and it says that after you go to the bill drafter and you get the technical things corrected and it goes back to the Secretary of State, the Secretary or State then, under this amendment, would send this proposition to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council. And the Executive Board of the Legislative Council, if they find it in the public interest, then they can delay the election until there is another legislative session and in that event propose an alternative proposition which will appear along side the proposition proposed by the initiative instigators. So this amendment in and of itself, just to indicate to you the scope of it, is not enough, there has to be a constitutional amendment. If those who have introduced the constitutional amendment are interested in an additional constitutional proposition, it can be done with a change in a few words, allowing the Legislature to delay until after a legislative session the proposition, the putting of any proposition on the ballot. So if your reaction is positive to this, then we would have to make that change. But I'm doing this basically because I think oftentimes the initiators of initiatives are certainly no more representative