

with their consent, with their approval.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Engel. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body, I, basically, turned on my light to talk to Senator Bernard-Stevens regarding who he would consider would be in charge of the final approval on these projects and activities, and I guess part of that has been answered. Senator Engel.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Engel.

SENATOR ENGEL: Yes.

SENATOR VRTISKA: In discussing this, I am trying to...you indicated that there would be...I mean your amendment shows that there would be a commission that would cooperate with the Governor in making these decisions, but then it would leave the sole authority to the Governor, after they had reviewed the project, is that correct?

SENATOR ENGEL: That is exactly correct.

SENATOR VRTISKA: That's the way I interpreted it, and I was curious because I was going to ask those questions but they have pretty well been answered, and I think that, again, I, obviously, would oppose the Bernard Stevens amendment at this time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I appreciate...thank you, Madam President and members of the body. Senator Engel, I am sorry but I respectfully say I think you are wrong on that. Of course, we all can disagree, and that's fine, that's the right of the body. But I give you an example of what used to happen in the Department of Economic Quality, Environmental Quality. They would have meetings and supposedly it said that the commission would give its consent, you know, for the grants that they gave out, but it was also clear that the director had supposedly sole authority. So the question then arose, what happens if the director says, yes, I am going to do it, but the commission said, no? And what happened in that case was that the director's policy actually prevailed, and you had the DEQ