

was wrong, to correct it on Final Reading, but something is not wrong, as far as I'm concerned, with LB 65. This amendment does not right or wrong, it simply adds something that could be added...could have been added at any time, but I'm glad we had this discussion regardless because I did learn more about it just from my objections in the beginning to now I strongly object, even more strongly object to it. My objections in the beginning were just that I didn't feel that it needed to be done here on Final Reading, it could be next year, or at some other time during the discussion of the bill, because we have had a very thorough discussion on the bill, and I have no objections to discussing whenever anybody in the body, of course, would want to have a discussion on anything that they need to have clarification on before passing a piece of legislation that is significantly binding, once it passes in the Legislature, or at least gets signed into law, to a large group of people, that I want to have it in the best shape that we can get it in. So I would never object to that. My objections to this was that I didn't feel it was necessary, and now I feel not only is it not necessary, but it is possibly unconstitutional and if adopted could take down LB 65, although with or without it, I will vote for LB 65, because maybe we will have the severability, if it does go to the Supreme Court, and the judges will see fit, and I hope they will use some of this discussion here on the floor of the Legislature for intent. It is not my intent, if the judges ever get this in front of them, I want them to know that I want them to sever this amendment from the rest of LB 65, and just keep LB 65, and make their judgment on this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Witek. Any further discussion on the Withem amendment? Seeing none, Senator Withem. He waives off.

SPEAKER WITHEM: I am sorry, I was not going to close, but I would yield my closing time to Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR CROSBY: All right. Then, Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the Legislature. Thank you, Senator Withem. I want to respond to the last speakers' comments about severability, and I will try to make this as plain as I can. What this amendment does is it does not add something to the bill. What this amendment does is reinstate the current language that is in our state statutes