

ASSISTANT CLERK: 14 ayes, 0 nays to go under call.

SENATOR CROSBY: The house is under call. Would all senators please return to their seats and record their presence. Would all unauthorized personnel please leave the floor. We are voting...we are voting on whether to cease debate. Senator Jones has indicated he will accept call-in votes. The house is under call. Would you please sit down.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Senator Elmer voting yes. Senator Fisher voting yes. Senator Brashear voting yes.

SENATOR CROSBY: Voting on whether to cease debate. Senator Jones has said he will accept call-in votes.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Senator Kristensen voting yes.

SENATOR CROSBY: Record please.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 4 nays to cease debate.

SENATOR CROSBY: Debate does cease. Senator Wickersham, would you like to close.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Well, I wouldn't like to but I guess I will.

SENATOR CROSBY: You may close. I will leave the house under call until we vote in the amendment.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Madam President, and I will, of course, subject myself to the will of the body and close after a while. The argument, I think, or the essential points with regard to this amendment to the amendment are whether or not we should have a grant program or a loan program. Even Senator Withem acknowledged that the weatherization program initially started out as a grant program, then was changed to a loan program because that was seen to confer greater benefits over the long term. I agree. I think loan programs do that and we should encourage that. It not only allows us to continue, the State of Nebraska to continue to participate in funding through the interest-free aspect of the loans. It does provide a good source for the program and would provide some of the funding that it would need. It would allow Senator Robinson's effort to