

Preister. I did hear Senator Fisher refer to this as controlled hunting. I still don't see it as being that, based on the things that I have been told about what hunting really is. I'm going to support Senator Preister's amendment and I wish Senator Avery, if he does have specific reasons to be opposed, would share those reasons with us, but from the few comments he made I think he gave more weight to what Senator Preister is suggesting, in other words, some means...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ..besides clipping the foot.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Bernard-Stevens, members of the Legislature, I oppose the amendment but only because I think it adds a very controversial element to the bill and, again, I would like to see the matters that we have before us this session resolved and I hope that Senator Preister would bring this back in the form of a separate bill so we could look at four or five different aspects of the problem and let people who believe strongly one way or another come forward and speak to the committee. Toe clipping is apparently considerably cheaper, both in terms of the time that it takes and in terms of the cost of banding, the cost of the bands themselves. There are arguments about enforcement. There's the question of whether or not it's actually a painful process at all the way it's done. There are all kinds of questions. It's like lead shot versus steel shot. It's very controversial in this particular area. I just think it should be dealt with separately and up front and directly. It's one of those things that you probably don't want to do by an amendment on the floor. At least in the sensitive state of negotiations on this particular bill, it's one of those elements that, at least for myself, I would take the pragmatic point of view and not... not add it on... not load it on to the bill at this point. Thank you.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Beutler. There being no further lights, Senator Preister, you're recognized to close if you so desire.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President, friends all. Yes, I would like to briefly close and I respect that I'm not