

speakers. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Speaker Withem, members of the Legislature. You know, I'm mixed on...I don't... I think that if Senator Wehrbein, if I heard it correctly or maybe he didn't say whether he was going to pull... pull this. Okay. I support what Senator Wehrbein and Senator Vrtiska are trying to do and I wanted to make clear in the record for our good friends in Missouri and others that may be watching or at least looking at the intent of what we've tried to do, that even if we pulled it today with the time constraints we have in this session, we wouldn't be able to discuss it until next year. The best way for us to handle the bill is to really keep it where it is where we can work closely with Senator Vrtiska, who's on the committee, myself who's on the committee, closely with Senator Wehrbein who's joint introducer of the bill, I believe, with Senator Vrtiska and we can work on those technical amendments. On no, they're (inaudible). We can work on those technical amendments so that the bill, resolution, can in fact come forward. I think the committee's, not speaking for the committee, but in the discussion of the committee were very serious about the bill. We know importance of the bill and we will be able to get something to the body that will be acceptable in the next session and I appreciate the work both of Senator Wehrbein and Senator Vrtiska has done. With that, I yield whatever...rest of my time remaining to Senator Vrtiska.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Vrtiska, you have two and a half minutes, or your light is on next for a full five. Do you want to...

SENATOR VRTISKA: I want both. Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens, and I just... I just want to... I want to tell you I have to rise and strongly oppose the motion to raise this bill from the following... and I want to give you the following reasons. I introduced LB 1075 in 1994 as Nebraska's response to Missouri's legislation which would redo the boundary line with the hope that we could begin negotiating process which can provide some resolution to this long-standing boundary dispute. It was my hope at that time that we could both sides get together and develop a solution which both sides could live with and it appeared at that time that the boundary commission was going to be able to carry out that task and, in fact, I still believe that entering in some type of negotiating process is the way to go, but as the process is somewhere between the two