

we should at least impose similar rules to those which would apply if the disputes were taken to the Court of Industrial Relations. I believe this amendment takes care of those concerns by simply requiring both parties to request the appointment of a special masters. If the special master's process is to be as helpful and effective as its supporters say it will be, then it should be a process which both parties to the disputes can agree to use. This offer...this amendment is certainly...I offer in good faith. I feel it makes the bill better, and I offer it for that reason. I would hope the supporters of LB 365 would be willing to agree to the amendment adoption and the body would support it. With that, I ask for your support of this amendment and I will answer any questions if I can when the time comes, and I'll give the remainder of my time to Senator Bromm.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Bromm, you have four and a half, excuse me, five and a half minutes.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Madam President and Senator Vrtiska. I join with Senator Vrtiska in offering this amendment on Journal page 1072. As the bill was prior to this amendment, it is the view of at least one party to the labor negotiations that occurs in the school setting that this would in effect without our amendment provide two bites at the apple, could actually increase the cost of settling labor disputes in this arena, and for that reason it has been the position I think of the employers generally that they were not comfortable with one party being able to unilaterally request a special master and receive it. The intentions here today and I think what both sides have agreed to at this point is that if we can adopt this amendment which would require both parties to request a special master that the following two amendments which I have filed which deal with the master's decision being binding on the parties and constituting admissible evidence would be withdrawn. And I will withdraw those if this amendment is adopted. I think that this amendment puts the bill in the shape that if there is a desire to use a special master if there are situations where it looks like it might work, it would give the parties the opportunity to try it. Maybe one or both sides will be surprised either pleasantly or find that it isn't workable. But in any event, it gives them an opportunity to look at that as an alternative and if they find that it works for them, so much the better. And so it is in that sense that I join in the...with Senator Vrtiska in offering this amendment and would ask the