

I understand senators concerns with that. But if you're talking about this piece of legislation it doesn't just do that, it does a lot more and covers a lot broader area and seals off a lot of records that I think should remain in the public records statutes and should remain in the public realm and accountable to the public. So I hope you will consider this amendment. And, Senator Hall, I wish that you would consider it because I don't think it hurts your bill at all. I think it really does clarify that. And I don't know, maybe you're just in for a good fight right now today, I don't know if that's the case or not. But I hope people will consider this amendment. I think it's very important to the passage of this bill if you intend to vote for this bill, and I think it's probably more along the lines of what you think this bill will do. I think it clarifies that...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: One minute.

SENATOR WITEK: ...and it doesn't make it any broader than it needs to be and seal off any more records possibly than you intend to, because I...if it's...if you want to come back next year and broaden it that's one thing. But to just go ahead this year and put a hammer down on all of these records I think is a mistake and this amendment changes that. So I hope you'll adopt it.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Witek. Senator Hartnett. Question has been called. Are there five hands? The Chair does not see five...the Chair does now see five hands. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Debate has ceased. Senator Hall, you're recognized for closing. I'm sorry, Senator Witek. Senator Hall probably would like to close on your amendment, but I will let you close on your amendment.

SENATOR WITEK: I'm sure Senator Hall would say that he's had a chance of heart and completely support this amendment if he had the opportunity to close. My amendment...right now the language in this bill affects all working papers of the audit...final audit reports, from the public audit...from the State Auditor's Office. All of those working papers would be sealed off with