

PRESIDENT ROBAK: LB 300 passes. We have already passed LB 326 and LB 326A. We move to LB 337.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Madam President, I have a motion on the desk. Senator Witek would move to return the bill to Select File for a specific amendment. (AM2570 appears on page 2642 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Witek to open on her motion.

SENATOR WITEK: Madam Chairman, members of the body, my amendment is being passed out right now and what AM2570 would do would be to permit county clerks to use a different standard when verifying petition signatures rather than the match language that's in 337. A petition signature qualifies as long as the name and address, my language would put in "substantially compares with" the name and address on the voter registration records. This is similar to language that we discussed in the Bromm amendment on Select File. It failed by one vote and I agreed with the Bromm amendment. I voted for it. I think that requiring an exact match is asking too much really of people to know and remember exactly the way that they signed their voter registration card, especially individuals who sometimes sign a more formal name and possibly when signing a petition use either an initial or a nickname or a shortened version of their name such as in Bob for Robert or Kate for Kathleen, those types of changing. And I would hope that we have enough support this time around and have that one extra vote that we need to change the language from "to match" on page 8, lines 3 and 4, I would strike "to match" and I would insert "substantially compares with". I think it will be easier for county clerks who know a lot of these individuals or who know the given nicknames or acceptable standards of names that they have for many years accepted on petitions to go ahead and continue doing that. So it changes the language from "to match" to "substantially compares with" and I would hope that you would support this amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Witek. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body, there are four amendments filed on this bill. This bill is on Final Reading. Those four amendments didn't go up there until about three-thirty or four o'clock this afternoon. Nobody