

use Kate instead of Kathleen, so I would still ask for your support of this amendment and I would hope that individuals would at least read this amendment into the bill to understand what area of the bill it's amending. Thank you.

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

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, and here we go again, Senator Landis. Thank you, Madam President, members, I rise in opposition to the motion to return for the Witek amendment. Senator Witek argues that "compare" is in the bill on a previous page and that she pulled it right out of the bill. "The" shows up in the bill in at least four or five different places. I guess we could use that in any amendment. But seriously, what you're talking about is taking an issue that says you match that signature for purposes of enacting a law or putting an issue before the people with regard to the referendum petition or the issue of the removal of a proposal from the section of statutes and we're saying that they can substantially compare with. In other words, that signature can substantially compare with the one that's found in the voter registration cards. That basically means that we're going to allow forgeries, in essence, I guess. If you want to say that we can go back to the problems that we had in the past where individuals duplicated names, they took voter registration lists and signed in various names. I think what you're going to do with...if you were to return the bill, which I would hope you would not, is you could actually hamper those petition drives which are out there. Those that understand and know, that do a good job, they know that you have to sign the petition the same way you are registered to vote. It's real simple to understand. It doesn't deal with initials, it doesn't deal with ditto marks, it doesn't deal with Mrs. John Doe. It says that it has to match. So in other words they have one instruction and one instruction only. It's not subjective, it's not subject to interpretation, you just make sure that your signature matches the one that you use when you register to vote. It's very easy. What you're going to do is you're going to complicate the process and cause problems all over again for people who want to petition their government. You are actually, with the adoption of the Witek amendment, going to inject all kinds of doubt, all kinds of subjective interpretation on the part of county clerks, on election officials into the process. The way it is spelled out now it is very simple and very clear. You sign it based on the way that you're registered to vote, easy to understand, no area for interpretation. You shouldn't