

February 5, 1996 LB 754

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 3 nays to cease debate, Madam President.

SENATOR CROSBY: Debate ceases. Senator Bernard-Stevens, you're recognized to close on your amendment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. Just as there has not been an attempt to filibuster, I hope that there's not an equal attempt simply because people are in a hurry to shut off debate and to close things down, because I can assure you things can change very quickly on the floor. Senator Chambers was in the body wanting to ask another question, which I think would have enlightened people of what the amendment would have really done, but, obviously, nobody wants to hear that. So I just send warning. This amendment, if the people who support the concept are true to their beliefs, they will support. Right now the way the bill is written, if you are a resident...if you have lived in the state of Nebraska for five years, you will not be fingerprinted, unless your school board has a position where they fingerprint all applications coming in, most school boards do not. This amendment simply says that anyone in the state of Nebraska who applies for a first issuance of a teaching certificate will be fingerprinted. It takes out the five-year requirement. It puts a period after "Patrol" on line 7, and strikes the rest. I'm not going to support the amendment, but I would think that if you truly believe that we don't want these people in our schools and we want to have the fingerprints to find them and weed them out that you would say we want all first applicants, regardless of age, regardless of where they've lived in the past, all first applicants in Nebraska should be fingerprinted. To argue otherwise would be saying, for the most part, we want to get some, but we don't want to get the rest. You can't have it both ways. This amendment, to be very clear, says that anyone in Nebraska, if this amendment is agreed to, in teaching, that applies for their first issuance would be fingerprinted, it's as simple as that. And at this particular point I'd like to have a call of the house and a roll call vote.

SENATOR CROSBY: Request for call of the house. All in favor vote aye, opposed no. Record, please.

CLERK: 20 ayes, 0 nays to place the house under call, Madam