

February 20, 1996 LB 964

little reminder about the bill and then we'll go to the amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Madam President, members, several weeks ago I think we had an important discussion on LB 964, it was a discussion, I think it was...we all learned from it, and I think we need to have such discussions on a...I feel an important bill such as this. (LB) 964, as most of us know here, I won't reiterate a lot about it, but it simply allows to...governing board of a subdivision to permit mail-in ballots on special issues. It does not affect candidates, it does not affect primaries, it does not affect general elections, it's simply on special issues. And the bill, in itself, does not do anything, it does not actually do anything. It permits, simply permits a governing body to do such. I think everybody here understands that, hopefully. If there's anything anybody wants to do to help this bill to make it a better bill, it's not a Jim Cudaback bill, it's not an Ed Schrock bill, it's not a Jim Jensen bill, it's one for the people. We shouldn't be testing the fortitude as the Journal-Star pointed out from a (inaudible), we shouldn't be testing the fortitude of the voter, we should make it easier for the voter to vote, and this is what this bill does on special issues if, if the governing body allows them to do such. And so, with that, I guess I won't stand here and ramble on, but I would urge your support for the bill. If we have some amendments coming up, why, to make the bill better, I'm all for that.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Withem would move to amend, Madam President. (Withem amendment, AM3075, can be found on page 764 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator...Senator Withem, to open on your amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, this amendment is a fairly simple amendment. It's designed to add a slightly higher comfort level for those individuals that are concerned about the mail-in voting provision. It simply indicates that prior to a measure being submitted on a special election by mail that there would have to be a two-thirds of the members of a governing body support sending that to the public by the mail process. It