

February 23, 1996 LB 1248

Senator Hartnett. We are accepting call-in votes.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Senator Landis voting yes. Senator Maurstad voting yes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: The house is under call. Would all senators please report to the Chamber. We are accepting call-in votes.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Senator Wickersham voting yes. Senator Brown voting yes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Debate has ceased. Senator Vrtiska, you're recognized to close on your amendment to the committee amendment.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. I think there's been certainly good debate on this bill. I'm pleased to say that the debate was good and a great many things have come out that needed to be discussed and should be discussed. As Senator Beutler indicated earlier, I'm willing to make the type amendments, or accept the type of amendments that will make this bill a better bill, make it more tighter. I think the idea of a sunset is probably wise because this is somewhat, in some sense an experiment. And if we find out some of the things that have been discussed could in fact happen then perhaps we need to go back and take a look at it again. And, of course, it could be revived and brought back as a bill. But I think it's a good idea in these kind of cases where we're sort of, in a sense, plowing new ground that we, in fact, do have an opportunity to have the bill rereviewed and determine if we want to continue in this direction. I do think that the bill is needed, I think the bill is warranted. I think that we have to understand that as a state we do, in fact, help those communities and those counties who have flood damage, who have tornados, who have extensive fire damage, we are, because we're compassionate, try to help those people with funds through the civil defense system. It's worked well in the past. I don't know that there's been that great of abuse. There's only a certain amount of money in there, and when that's gone then it's gone. This bill is a