

will improve it, and it is taking out one of those terms related to the federal mandates that could really open it up, and I would like that to stay in the bill, because I'm sure it would stop people like Senator Warner and Senator Wehrbein from supporting it. But because I think we ought to legislate in a way that is responsible, Senator Beutler has put me in a position where I have to vote for an amendment that will improve the bill, but it doesn't improve it enough to make it a good piece of legislation. It's one of those kind which, because it is so broad and sweeping in its scope, we're going to have to chip away, by way of the amending process. I'm going to support this one. And I won't take my full five minutes, and maybe Senator Beutler can get a vote on this particular amendment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Chambers. There are no further lights. Senator Beutler, do you wish to close?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Bernard-Stevens, members of the Legislature, just to reiterate what the amendment does, so you're aware of it, it puts a two-year sunset, June 30th, 1998, on the legislation, so hopefully we can proceed to debate it with the security of knowing that we already have a sunset on it. It also takes out all reference to the federal government, so that anything that comes down as a federal mandate that may cause problems for local political subdivisions will not be able to be considered under the bill, and what we will be considering then, primarily, are state mandates, things that are under our control. So with those two things, I think we come closer to where we want to be. I don't perceive that it brings us to where we're going to need to be ultimately, but I hope it puts us in a position where a proposition can be made to you, on Select File, that will be in accordance with your ideas of the scale of this endeavor. Thank you.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Beutler. You've heard the close on the Beutler amendment to the committee amendments. The question is, shall the amendment be agreed to? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Beutler's amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: The Beutler amendment is agreed to.