

as entities, in and of themselves, and not just deal with a specific symptom. So I think Senator Bernard-Stevens amendment does that, and I don't think it does violence at all to what Senator Dierks was attempting to accomplish. I had hoped that we would have had some meetings of the mind, but those don't always develop this late in the session because we are all working on a number of other things, but at this point, I am going to be supporting the Bernard-Stevens amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. My concern with this amendment is that I believe that it does relax the standards, and I am not going to support it because I don't want it to be all that open a process. I want the openness to be where it should be but not with providing information to all these different entities, and I'm afraid that's what's going to happen with Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment. I just...it is such a sensitive issue to me and I think most of those people who are concerned about this, and I think that the way the bill is drafted right now it takes care of what we really need to have done. I am not...I just...I guess I have some objections to trying to open it up any more, so I am not going to support it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President. Senator Wesely, and I know you've been gone, at least on Thursday, if I recollect correctly, and I remember our discussion we had prior, when the last bill came up, and the reason I think we didn't go to cloture so that we could have some time to work on this particular language and come up with language that we would all feel comfortable with. I was open and I was ready to do that at any time. I met with the people behind the glass that were working 1044. I was given assurances by others that they were working on it, they would get back to me, and, quite honestly, no one has ever gotten back to me. So, you know, I understand where you'd like to find some language that would appease all of us, but the fact of the matter is, given the four days since we've been on the bill, either they haven't done it, either they haven't been willing to do it, or if they did, they certainly didn't let me know, so I'm ..to the original amendment.