

reduced all the services they could to the level to still maintain the services that are necessary to carry on county government, if they had not, in fact, done that, then they again would be under the direction... would certainly be the direction of the Risk Manager and the Claims Board to take a good look at that before they would allow that to go through; the same situation that Senator Maurstad was talking about, to make sure that they were not, in fact, I guess you could say, trying to beat the game.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay. And I say this somewhat tongue in cheek, but if someone does a series of murders and they said they were told by God to do so, that wouldn't be a natural disaster, would it? (Laugh.) You don't need to answer that. Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. With that explanation, I'm even more comfortable with what you're doing.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Withem, members of the Legislature, I just wanted to put in a quick word of support for the amendment and with the amendment the bill. I think good and appropriate questions were raised today. And I'm sure that Senator Maurstad, for example, will be watching closely how payments are made out of this particular fund. And the questions he raised I'm sure will be the basis, two years hence, for either expanding the act or contracting the act in a number of ways, and that's what I wanted to simply remind you of, that there is also in this bill a sunset provision. So this will come up for review in just a couple of years. It is experimental, I think it's a good experiment, but it will be reviewed by us in a couple of years. And Senator Bernard-Stevens and Senator Maurstad and several others, including Senator Chambers, obviously, we're all going to be keeping an eye on this to see that it functions appropriately. So, with that, I hope the body is inclined to be supportive of the amendment and the bill.

SPEAKER WITHEM: I understand there's an amendment being offered to this amendment. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Vrtiska would move to amend his