

to hold down property tax, who want to affect that particular bill could do what we talked about before, hold the meetings, have the organized groups come forward, bring their ballots there and then mail them in. That possibility is becoming more of a reality as we get into some of the issues that will be before us on possible overrides or letting the people vote. And so as I said, originally when Senator Cudaback, I know he is trying to do something very positive for his counties. I know he's had a lot of positive response from people mainly concerned with the cost. And I know that Senator Jones talked, about his son, you know, taking a very long time to get in to vote, to a voting booth. But, you know, people in the 3rd District know that if it's going to the grocery store, if it's taking their child to school, if it's doing any of those things there's a bigger time commitment to get that done. Now if we, you know, do what Senator Wickersham would do, and probably wants to do, it wouldn't take as much time, on speed limits. But I do think that it's something that we should pay very close attention to. I think that it could eventually dilute the process, a process that I think that I and all of us here certainly hold very dear and value. And I think to allow people to mail in the vote, and I don't care if it's worked in other states, and I think the reason here was one of cost as we expanded it. I think it goes beyond just what Senator Cudaback was attempting to do and I think now we impact certainly the whole process and certainly we dilute that process that has long been held in this country as a very valuable right and something that I will be opposed to 964. I will probably support Bernard-Stevens' amendment. Thank you.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Witek.

**SENATOR WITEK:** Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I rise in support of the Bernard-Stevens amendment. Although I have grave reservations about supporting the bill at all, with the Bernard-Stevens amendment it does improve, at least back to its original form that we discussed in the Government Committee. I have two amendments following Senator Bernard-Stevens, and I sent out a packet of information to all senators. The issues that I was going to...that I would like to address in my amendments are the issues of fraud, which I think we've discussed in some detail on the floor, but we haven't actually addressed how to...how to put some curbs on the potential for that fraud. One of my amendments addresses the opportunity for individuals, as soon as these ballots would be mailed out, to go