

candidates, because even Senator Cudaback was not willing to do the experiment when it came to us. I mean when it came to voting for senators, Senator Cudaback didn't necessarily want to have a mail-in vote to have more participation. He wanted to have it on those special elections. And when it came to a vote for mayor or county board members, well, jimminy Christmas, we're not going to have mail-in votes because more people may vote; we're just going to do it over here. And so even Senator Cudaback obviously had strong concerns about this process and he wanted to, quite fairly, have an experiment. Senator Maurstad's amendment will allow the experiment to go. We can look at it. Senator Cudaback's statements will still be true. He'll be the first one, he says, that if the process does not work well that would come back to repeal it, and I believe Senator Cudaback. But at least we'll have the data on an area that makes sense that's not going to disrupt what we're doing in the other areas, and it limits it to, Senator Maurstad, correct me if I'm wrong, we're on bonded indebtedness and capital construction, is that correct? Senator Maurstad, is that correct that we're limiting these special elections by mail to bonded indebtedness and in capital construction?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: That's correct.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay. That I think is a fair compromise. We do the experiment, we get data, we can expand it when we...when we'll have better data on the entire property tax process and we can expand it at that time, but we still get the data on how the experiment went and I think that's a fair proposal on all sides. And, again, with this amendment I don't have any difficulty trying the experiment. I think it, though I still don't like the fact that people will come to a person's house and may potentially have a conflict of interest and get people to vote ways that they feel pressured to do so, I will concur with Senator Cudaback the data in other states are indicating that has not been a problem. I'm still uncomfortable with that, but I'd be willing to go this far and I would appreciate the body's serious consideration and, after seriously considering it, I would hope that...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ..you would vote in favor of the Maurstad amendment.