

it easy. The cloture vote makes it easy, the fact you only have to go 12 hours and anybody, if they want to, can go 12 hours. That's easy enough. So when the day...in the days, Senator Maurstad, of the old cloture the body is actually pretty full right now compared to what it would be back then and I can assure you that the people back in their offices are not listening because they're just doing work and when...if they get to a vote on the bill, they'll come back and vote on the bill, but that's just the way things are. The Maurstad amendment, to me, makes a lot of sense and it was offered...I felt sorry, in a way, for Senator Maurstad because he came back with the idea. You know, I was speaking at the time and asked if he could put that on paper and I was still speaking and he went ahead and signed it, something that I would have signed obviously, and he...and it really got to be the Maurstad amendment and I know he agreed with it, but he got put in a position that he hadn't intended to. The Maurstad amendment, I don't necessarily understand why Senator Cudaback would not support it and I don't understand really why the body doesn't support it, except if we're going to be stubborn, and, certainly, if I'm stubborn, everyone else has the right to be stubborn as well. The Maurstad amendment allows everything that Senator Cudaback and Senator Schimek wanted to have happen on the mail-in votes. It allows all of it. But it narrows it a little bit more than what even Senator Cudaback narrowed it down. Senator Cudaback felt that candidates would be too much of a controversial issue, not to the body but just on potentials of problems on his bill. In the same token, I'm suggesting that when we do what I suspect we're going to do on the property tax spending and levy caps that those issues are going to be as explosive and controversial in those areas as any candidate election will ever be. I don't know why we want to take that chance of increasing those problems or tensions or possibilities of increased frustration at that time. The Maurstad amendment would simply say we will do what Senator Cudaback has asked us to do, we will do it in this one area of bonded indebtedness. When, in fact, we get the data and we catch the bugs that are there, and there will be some,...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...we will then fix that and expand it to other areas. I do not, for the life of me, see where that is such an onerous amendment and I would urge the body to