

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: You called on me. (Laughter.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 3 nays to cease debate.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Debate is ceased. Senator Hillman, you're recognized to close on your amendment.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Yes, thank you. A couple things first here. Senator Chambers, I know you object to me being on this bill. But you have to understand I wouldn't be on this bill if you hadn't offered a bracket motion to keep it on General File. So I don't know if that's a mistake on your part, but it could have been. The other thing I wanted to point out, when you talk about the election officers that happen every four years and how you have a chance to change them and the administrator stays there forever, that administrator is there by virtue of the hiring of the governing board. And you don't have to wait four years to get rid of a county administrator if you don't want them. It's very simple, you fire them and you...and someone else. You have a much more responsive government, Senator Lynch, than I think what you're portraying. There was also some talk about the opposition to this bill. There were 17 people that testified in favor of the bill. There were nine people that testified against it. And you commented there was one that traveled down here. I specifically requested with the Government Committee that they would teleconference, video conference...video conference so that we could have as many people that I knew objected to this bill in Scotts Bluff County, so that they could openly testify. And I had one of them that was so upset with me for offering this bill that he traveled to Lincoln, even though he could have stayed at home and video conferenced, to testify against this bill. So it's not a question, you have to understand that maybe Scotts Bluff County wants this in its entirety, because that's not the case. But I did have a lot of people from Scotts Bluff County and across the state that were not connected in any way, either an elected official, nor a county...member of the county board. There were business people that could not understand how you could possibly function and offer any type of anywhere near a government service that even begins to be related to a business aspect with the current form of government. I only want to dwell, probably in closing, on two things. One, it's permissive, it will not