

Bernard-Stevens amendment and the advancement of the bill.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: I'll waive.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Call the question.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Bernard-Stevens, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Again, it's the body's decision, but I don't believe there's been adequate debate on both sides even though some are ready to go home.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Let me...the other thing I'm...just before I make any judgment on that one way or the other, is there a substitute amendment pending up here, Senator Bernard-Stevens?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: No.

SPEAKER WITHEM: In that case, let me just check out the records here. I see by the list up here that we've had the opening, we've had two speakers on the bill and it is a new subject matter and I would indicate that the debate should probably continue and that the request to call the question would be out of order. Yes, Senator Bernard-Stevens, I am sorry, I was calling upon you. I was not just responding to your statement. I was calling upon you to speak. You are the next speaker.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Withem, and I appreciate the Speaker's patience. I don't intend to spend a long time on this amendment, but I do want to make sure that on a day when we're all tired after a couple of weeks of incredibly hard work and I, above all, would like to get out of here soon because if I'm flying home, the ice and snow is up about 2,000 feet, the sooner I get going the safer it will be. But this is very important, obviously at least to me. I understand where Senator Kristensen and the committee was coming from on the spirit of the bill introduced by Senator Brashear and I do not have any qualms or argument really with the committee on the way they handled the Brashear...the committee amendments in regard