

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

February 4, 1999 LB 298

perhaps they should have this, because I wouldn't like to see competition between the committees to take on a responsibility which I think has...is long overdue. I will ask each one of you a rhetorical question when I mention that in November or December, some place along the line, I received from Research a list of all the commissions and what their goals are and so on. And sometimes we do get reports from some of the commissions, not always. How many of you looked at that list, went through and went to Program Evaluation or wrote a letter and said, well, I think we ought to evaluate this commission? I doubt that any one of us did it. And I think we...Senator Schimek and I and others have been at this for a long time trying to get a handle on how to evaluate and to be sure that the commissions are functioning the way they're supposed to and that we know what they're doing. So I just think that this is a good opportunity for us to put it in a Standing Committee and the Government Committee seems the logical one, so that they can...so that there's some oversight and some regular evaluation and some regular reading of those reports by a committee. So I just think it's a good bill. I don't want this amendment. I want the bill the way it is and I will vote no on the amendment. Senator Schimek, did you need any more time? Okay. Thank you.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Senator Janssen.

**SENATOR JANSSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. I rise in opposition to the amendment for the simple reason that we always keep hearing and, as a matter of fact, we voted down a...another board or commission not too many days ago for the simple fact that we have a lot of people that say we need no more boards or commissions. Well, this is a way to evaluate those, those boards or commissions, and to see if, in our opinion, they are worthwhile and they need to be there. And, yes, and the Program Evaluation cannot get to, you know, we've got a lot of them, I don't know what the number is, there's a heck of a lot of boards and commissions, and this way we could look at them every year to see if we feel...if the committee feels as though it's a necessary board or commission. So, therefore, I...I am going to support the bill the way it is and I am going to oppose the Coordsen amendment. Thank you.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Seeing no further lights, Senator Coordsen,