

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

February 18, 1999 LB 60

is clear, but the case that she read from, which lays out the law, articulated by the Supreme Court, was in existence and had been in existence probably even before I was born, if you can believe that. And, yet, the canvassing board behaved in the way that it did, which was to go beyond the work of merely canvassing. So what I want to do on page 2, in line 8, is strike the words "to canvass" and insert for the purpose... "for the sole purpose of canvassing". And here's the way this sentence would then read: "The Board of State Canvassers shall meet at the office of the Secretary of State on the fourth Monday after each statewide primary and general election for the sole purpose of canvassing the votes cast for all the officers and issues" and so forth. This will make it crystal clear, even though nothing else should need to be said, but it makes it crystal clear that the only thing they are summoned for as a board is to canvass or tabulate these ballots and votes. So if you have any questions about the amendment I will answer them, but all it does is put into the body of the law itself a statement of what their only purpose is. To those who are familiar with the law, to those who understand the meaning of words, in this particular case "canvass", the bill itself should not be necessary. The words that I'm offering should not be necessary. But since the activities of the board have brought into being an evil, it is necessary for the Legislature to draft legislation which aims specifically at addressing the evil which has come into existence. And when I say "evil", I don't mean it in a moral sense. I mean something which is undesirable, unacceptable...unacceptable, and needs to be remedied.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Debate on the Chambers amendment? Senator Chambers, I see no lights. He waives closing. The question before the body is the adoption of the Chambers amendment to LB 60. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record.

**ASSISTANT CLERK:** 27 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of Senator Chambers' amendment.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** The amendment is adopted. Further items on the bill?

**ASSISTANT CLERK:** I have nothing further, Mr. President.