

students from Calvert School in Lincoln, Nebraska, with their teachers. And I understand that one of the students is Chad Halverson (phonetic) who is the son of our Nancy Hicks. Would you please stand and be recognized, all of you that is. Thank you for visiting the Legislature this morning. Senator Beutler please.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I call the question, Mr. Speaker.

SENATOR BARRETT: The question has been called, do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. We are voting on the return of the bill. Excuse me, this is ceasing debate. I am sorry. Ceasing debate. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 15 ayes, 16 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Debate has not ceased. Senator Landis, then Senator Scofield, then Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, let me try to respond to the questions offered by Senator DeCamp. The way Senator DeCamp described the operation of the Supreme Court on severability is accurate. They do apply severability without regard to what we choose to do or not. Why then a severability clause for election procedures? You know it seems to me that up until Select File there was no need for a severability clause nor did we have one in the bill. But on Select File, we picked a second methodology and we put it in the bill. I stood up on the floor and said, you are right, Howard Lamb. I'll vote with you on affiliation. We put in two mechanisms that are in there now, merge you with the right to vote or affiliation. And one of them has some cloud according to the Attorney General. The severability clause made no sense when there was only one mechanism and that mechanism had some question. Then the question of the election certainly was definitely entwined, but with the inclusion of Senator Lamb's affiliation the second methodology altogether it certainly does alter the nature of the bill. Now you ask why leave the severability clause in there? Why put it in there? This in part I guess is an example of how hard we've tried to work to make this bill workable and fair and when you make an advance along that line it's turned against your question. Delayed implementation. Why? To study, to come up with better ideas if there are any, to find out its