

proceed. We will proceed with LB 126.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Lynch, I had amendments from you, Senator, to 126. I also have a note you wish to withdraw. Madam President, Senator Will would move to return the bill for purposes of striking the enacting clause.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body, I just wanted to, without taking much time, remind the body that this is the bill that we ended a debate on Thursday on motions to return from Final Reading for specific amendments. Senator Lynch had an amendment filed that would have taken off an amendment that Senator Hall had adopted on Select File. This is the amendment dealing with the Omaha Airport Authority that would significantly curtail their ability to charge fees for access to the airport. If you remember the debate on Thursday, this was an amendment...the Hall amendment that is, that was adopted on Selected File with very little debate, with very little discussion of the ramifications of it for the Airport Authority. Since then, the Airport Authority has expressed great concern and, while I think Senator Hall did make some good arguments for the...for the adoption of his amendment, the scope of the amendment we're unsure of at this time. We're not exactly sure what effects it has for the Airport Authority and since we do have an entity that right now is self-supporting without a property tax...property tax levy that is able to support itself through the levying of fees, and that this may affect its ability to operate, I would suggest at this time that probably the wisest course of action is to either vote against LB 126 or to abstain from voting. I think it's an issue that we should discuss during the interim, that we can get the parties that are involved to sit down, that we can find out exactly what the situation is and fashion proper legislation for introduction next session. But I think, at this point, to adopt legislation that potentially threatens the operation of the Omaha Airport Authority would not be something that the Legislature would want to do and would cast us in a bad light. I know there is one or two other senators that would like to discuss this motion. I will withdraw it as soon as they have had their chance to speak. But, again, I would urge you to either vote no or abstain from voting on this bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Ashford.