

situation was. In the future, if this were to be kept in place, and, hopefully, we'll never ever go through this again, but if we should, we have a new targeted population coming out of the census in the year 2000 and something of this nature should happen, that figure would then move with the size of whatever the targeted amounts are would be. So that is one of the committee amendments to come up with that number of signatures being 2 percent of the target or, in other words, 645 signatures on a petition. A second point in the committee amendment that is being addressed under this committee amendment to the bill deals with the time or when these petitions need to be turned in, and originally we had used a number like August 31st. Well, sometimes as years go by and things change, using such a date specific creates a problem and that is the Secretary of State says is that an official holiday or where that may fall, and so forth, and found that it would be just much clearer to say the last Friday of the month of August would be the final deadline for turning those petitions in rather than the 31st. It would simply be a little clearer in terms of what that date may be and not create any confusion there. That primarily is the essence of the committee amendments to the bill and upon their adoption we can discuss the various aspects and merits of the bill itself.

SPEAKER BAACK: You've heard the opening on the committee amendments. Is there anyone wishing to discuss the committee amendments to LB 9? Seeing no one, Senator Conway, do you wish to close? He waives closing. We will now vote on the committee amendments to LB 9. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on the committee amendments to LB 9. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER BAACK: The committee amendments are adopted. We are now on the bill as amended. Senator Conway, did you wish to open on the bill?

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, LB 9 now, as adopted, is that administrative process and vehicle, if you will, for any districts that ultimately would be changed and as per what this body adopted under LB 7, we would be talking about two...the two odd-numbered districts in northeast Nebraska now have been changed. What was just adopted relative to the