

Schimek, would you like to close?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Just briefly, Mr. President, members of the body. Senator Hall, I think your interpretation is accurate and I will double check that with the department. But I think that was their intention. And I think if you can accept that as some kind of assurance that you can go ahead and support this amendment, that would be appreciated. But I think that is the interpretation that I guess I would use. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. We will now vote on the Schimek amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Schimek's amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Senator Schimek would move to amend with AM1794, Mr. President. (Amendment appears on page 1878 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Oh, yes, thank you. Mr. President, members of the body, I was confused momentarily because this is actually...this amendment is actually a bill that Senator Rasmussen introduced to the Government Committee, and then I introduced it as my amendment. So what...this bill came to us because some people from Red Cross were interested in having state employees be available to work disasters. And it allows...What this bill allows is any state employee who is a Red Cross certified disaster worker, to have leave, if they have the permission of the supervisor, to work on Nebraska disasters. Now this does not send them down to Florida or to South Carolina for hurricanes, it will only be for Nebraska disasters. They would be able to have this leave, with permission, with no loss of pay or vacation or sick leave and so forth. The committee advanced it, I believe, on a four to one vote, with two members...or four to zero, one vote, with two members absent. And I...I'm sorry that Senator Rasmussen isn't here to...to promote the bill, but it would apply to most state employees. It would apply to university employees, state college employees, community college employees. And, with that, I would be happy