

debate on the next bill. And I think that debate will illustrate why in part anyway I share Senator Moore's concerns. I realize that each bill is open for amendment, but I also realize that as our process goes forward we have to give some consideration to the essential work that we need to have done. And a part of LB 348 might be considered essential work and that is the in lieu of tax. Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment on this bill I guess I don't have any opinion about whether that's essential. But if it's agreed to, maybe it isn't harmful. But I do have a concern on the amendments that are going to come up on LB 839. In fact, I'll offer an amendment that takes care solely of what I consider to be the essential noncontroversial item, the in lieu of tax. I really haven't made up my mind how I'm going to vote on Senator Bernard-Stevens' motion to return because I've got one pending to deal with another noncontroversial and also essential matter. I imagine that Senator Moore will also oppose that. But I do understand what he's saying about the process, and I think that if we were careful and considerate of the process that we would reserve these kinds of motions to return only for those items which are both noncontroversial and clearly essential. And with that, I just...I didn't want Senator Moore to think he was standing there all alone on that issue because he certainly is not.

**PRESIDENT MOUL:** Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Does anyone else wish to speak to this motion? Seeing none, do you have closing, Senator Bernard-Stevens?

**SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS:** Thank you. I think the salvos have been fired on the next bill. I think most people are in agreement that this is noncontro...in fact I think everyone is in agreement this is noncontroversial as far as the amendment. To reedify what the amendment would be, if the child would not...we're not talking about classes as I explained to Senator Janssen. We're talking about entire programs. And the way the law is now, if I go to the Christian school or parochial school and I try to...and I finish the K-8 and I'm done, I have to go back to the resident district. This simply provides the option that if they went to the Christian or private school they still have the option school they originally had the choice for to do, gives them the flexibility but they must finish the entire program. If it's K-8, they must finish it. If it's K-12, they cannot use this particular vehicle. They have to finish the entire program. I urge the bill to be returned for this particular amendment.