

think what Senator Bernard-Stevens is suggesting is better than what current law is, too, for that matter. But, hopefully, you do not want to burden the council with these every day administrative decisions. It's a fracturing of government that's going to lead to, I think, increased paralysis...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Madam President. Senator Beutler has been describing the process very adequately, and we spent considerable time with it in committee. And we all came to the consensus, after much discussion, that the position to have the agencies make the grants without having it have to be reviewed over, and over, and over again, especially in the instance of the Department of Environmental Quality where so much material is handled in this manner, and so many grants, and so many awards of money are being made, that it would become impossible for the council to adequately address all of the individual issues. And I do agree, we need to look and make it uniform. But at this point I don't believe that we want to get involved with that decision-making, and I'd advise that we would reject Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment, even though it's very well intentioned. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Any further discussion of the Bernard-Stevens amendment? Seeing none, all those in favor vote...Oh, I'm sorry. Senator, would you wish to close on your amendment?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I appreciate you trying to rush the Legislature to get work done, but I'll just take thirty seconds, Madam President. And, again, the philosophical discussion is both...this amendment is a better amendment than the law is now. And Senator Beutler is correct, the committee bill is also better than what the law is now, so either way the law will be improved. The question that we have before the body is really simply this, do you want hundreds of thousands, in some cases a total of over millions of dollars to be put out to companies that may, in fact, their life blood may be on whether they receive a grant to get started or not on their development process, on recycling, do you want that decision made by one