

of you as to how it should be modified. But I hope you will adopt the committee amendments and put the bill itself in place and then we can deal with the bill itself. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Remmers.

SENATOR REMMERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the amendments as well as the bill. I think the responsibility for the districts and the judges was vested in the Legislature. We may not have been doing a very good job. I can understand Senator Beutler's frustrations. I think my legislative district, the judicial district down there is probably one of the worst examples that he is talking about. We did have a meeting, discussed it and I will admit that I didn't do anything to follow up on it. I think most of us realize that probably we do need to have...the Legislature needs to have a look at our judicial districts and do something about it and I certainly pledge my efforts to do something about it. But to change the system, actually I think it is constitutionally suspect. I am not a lawyer but I have some serious questions about it because I think we are giving up some authority, some responsibilities. We are giving up some and I am not sure we have a right to do that. But I know this, I would hate to go back to my constituents and tell them that I had turned this heavy responsibility over to a commission rather than assuming the responsibility myself. I am an elected official, and if we are not doing our job, well, then the people should probably elect a new official. But I think we should hesitate changing the system, giving up our responsibility. I know that I couldn't tell my people that I had turned a responsibility that was mine over to a commission because I just didn't like to do it. I urge you to defeat the amendments and also the bill.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, just a few comments before we vote on the committee amendment. I think we are setting a bad precedent here. If we pass this bill as amended by the committee amendment, are we going to set up a commission then to redistrict the Regents' districts? How about the State Board of Education? How about the Public Service Commission? So I think we really need to think this one out. They told us that we would be more efficient in our judicial system, that we would be