

solve the problem, we'd better not put it in this statute if we want to get it done. Therefore, I would support Senator Murphy's kill motion on LB 63 in that I think it's going to work exactly backwards to the way you want it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Lamb and then Senator Vickers.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to support the kill motion on LB 63. I think many of us are hearing from our constituents these days that the schools should zero in on the basic educational priorities that most of us are familiar with, and that while this bill is probably meritorious in that it is a good subject matter, it has been covered very well by Senator Venditte that this program is now permissive, that any school that thinks it is worthwhile and beneficial has the opportunity to teach the subject matter as he explained. Therefore, I believe that this is a bill that should not be mandated by the state for the schools. I support the kill motion.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers and then Senator Duis.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise in support of Senator Murphy's kill motion. As a member of the Education Committee I voted against advancing this bill from the Committee and I would like at the outset to say that I am not against the mentally retarded or the handicapped person. Senator Wesely's concern is a real concern, and I appreciate that concern, but I will submit to you that teaching about it is not going to cure it. I'm not sure how much good teaching about mental retardation is going to be as far as reducing the number of people that the state is helping to take care of at Beatrice and various other places, but I think the real issue here is whether or not we really want local control of our schools. If we're going to dictate the curriculum to the schools of the State of Nebraska, why don't we just do away with the school boards and say that this 49 member body is the school board for the State of Nebraska, and be done with it? These people are elected out there to run our schools and to make the curriculum, and I think we should allow them to. Senator Venditte says he's already teaching it. Senator Wesely says that probably some of the large schools are. I'll submit to you that the small schools don't do that bad a job of teaching kids either. Whether they teach them about mental retardation or not, I can't tell you because I don't know, but our children, at least, understand mental retardation. They're lenient to people that are retarded, and I don't know whether it's because they were taught in the schools, or not. We taught them at home. And I would urge the members