

March 11, 1980

LB 743

E & R amendments to LB 743. Is there any discussion? If not, all those in favor of adopting the E & R amendments to LB 743 signify by saying aye, opposed nay. The E & R amendments on LB 743 are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lewis now moves to amend the bill.

PRESIDENT: All right, a motion, an amendment by Senator Lewis. Read the amendment. Just going to explain it, Senator Lewis, will you just explain? The amendment is a long amendment.

SENATOR LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, this is an amendment that I have talked to several members of the Education Committee about and it is a problem that I have that needs to be straightened out in terms of Class III school districts. When we passed 383, I think that was three years ago, part of that provision called for a different method of dealing with when a city annexes. I know that the Class VI schools have a problem but the problem I have after talking to most of the Class III schools in cities, we are about the only one that has it. As our city expands and it is expanding to the southwest and it is occurring this year, it is not clear what happens to those people in that particular area as the city annexes. Those that were formed by petition, they can be taken by the school district. Those that are not cannot. Well, there are concerns both ways and what I am asking you to do is when a Class III school district within a city, when that city expands, that those people in the area affected have the right to vote as to which school district they will go to. That is what I am asking you to do. That issue has to be straightened out simply because it is done in two different ways now depending on how the district was formed. The committee has a bill which they are doing for study now. Unfortunately, I'd like to wait for that study but the issue is coming now with the annexation particularly to the southwest by the City of Bellevue. I have talked to Senator Lamb. I have talked to Senator Koch. I have talked to Senator Kahle. I have talked to Senator George. I have talked to everyone on the committee and many members of that committee did not oppose what I am attempting to do. They simply didn't want to bring that total bill out that dealt with Class VI's because of the problem involved. I ask for the adoption of the amendment. Again, the amendment says that everyone in an annexed area shall vote on where they want to go to school. I ask the adoption.