

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Labeledz, would you like to close, please.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have any particular closing so I am going to relinquish at least one minute of my time to Senator Scofield. I feel very strongly, and I'm going to mention it again, that school districts and local control of schools should be the governmental unit closest to the people in the community. What I am suggesting here is an interim study and possibly take that study out, not have them in Omaha and Lincoln, take them out where the people will listen and perhaps agree or come to some agreement. Right now I know that each and every one of you have folders and folders of letters that we receive from people outstate. I'm a city gal. I feel very strongly about local control, yet I know that LB 662 has some good points. It has to be resolved and certainly if we take our stories out in the districts where it means so much to those people, and I have compassion for every one of them, especially when it involves children and the education of their children. I urge the members of this Legislature to go for the interim study, even though...and, Senator Vickers, I cringe when you call me a coward because I am not a coward. It's just the fact that I feel very strongly that people have a right to be able to control their local school boards and their education of their children. I will not support LB 662. I feel that LB 662 should have an interim study. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Scofield.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Senator Labeledz. Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I'd like to just use an old farm girl's analogy here because I think Senator Vickers might relate to that. You know sometimes when you're trying to load up a cow and she won't go through the chute, what you do is you get one of those little hot prods out and you goose her a little and sometimes she goes in, but more often she just flat jumps out and the worst possible of all worlds is she goes right through your fence and then you've really lost a lot of time because you've got this fence to fix and you've got a cow out and you don't have her loaded up and you're really in a big mess. So let's not talk about cows and how to load them I guess, but let's not talk about courage and cowardice here either because we're not playing cowboys. We're talking about a very serious issue that