

questions. Both sides are coming at this with different assumptions and they are asking different questions and I think that if both sides really sat down and tried sincerely to understand the other side, it would be a lot easier to solve this problem. I think that is part of our problem is that there is sort of this inherent mistrust between the two sides. If you live in the country, you have always believed that those guys in town have got it made and they are sticking it to us, and if you live in town, you sit there and you look out and you say those guys are all rich farmers and ranchers and, boy, do they have it made. I would suggest to you that that doesn't exactly promote for clear thinking or for rational decision making and I guess that is the reason why I pushed so hard for an interim study is that if we can't get past that point, we are just going to continue this battle. So I am going to support Senator Lamb but I wish you would keep that other point in mind, too. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Schmit, then Senator Nelson.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Mr. President and members of the Legislature, there have been a great many people who I visited with the last few days as I have over the past few weeks and months and most of them I believe would support this kind of an amendment. Most of them are concerned about the distance they need to travel, about the closing of their school, and about the fact that they really do not have the control that they would like to have over the attendance centers under the present version of the bill. This would, I believe, solve that concern for them. It would also remove, as Senator Scofield has indicated, the implication of a tax haven and I think it would give the Class II, or Class III, or the other receiving district some indication of support when the enrollment of the various Class I's tends to rise or fall. I think that is another issue that has concerned many of the various schools, the fact that they need to build to provide an adequate facility, then at sometime in the future when the enrollment falls from a certain Class I, they do not have that support. That creates a very unfair burden upon the residents of that district. I can tell you very frankly that I am a member of a Class III district and I would tell you again that because of the low ratio of rural to urban residents we do not have very much to say about the operation of that school. That is the way the system works under a one man, one vote