

able to get the students to and from school in the safest possible manner. This association is not so much opposed to the use of safety belts in school buses as it is supportive of the concept of compartmentalization. They have come to this position after years of tests, experiments and studies which concluded that compartmentalization provides an adequate level of safety protection. In contrast there are no standards established for seat belts on large school buses. This is an issue that this Legislature should address. I'm firmly convinced that it is a situation that must be studied and eventually should be put into law. LB 496 is not the place. This is not the time. We must be sure, we must be absolutely sure that when we do it we have done it and we have done it right. I, therefore, again would say to you what Senator Vickers is trying to do is laudable. I appreciate his concern. I must oppose his amendment. I think we need to bring this back at a later time when the facts are there that buses, which operate on our roads and our streets that are carrying all the way from 36 to 54 passengers, are properly equipped to do the...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR GOLL: ...job that must be done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Goll. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Question.

PRESIDENT: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do. There are recognition lights on. All those in favor of closing debate vote aye, opposed vote no. Senator Hefner called the question. We are now voting on the question of, shall debate cease on the Vickers amendment? Have you all voted? The Clerk will record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion prevails. Senator Vickers, you may close.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, I believe the issue is now in pretty sharp focus. I think it is pretty clear who, among the proponents, are on which side. Are we really talking about safety, or are we talking about what