

talked about transportation with one of the issues we had before us and we decided as a committee that it was important to provide transportation as much as we could because of the need to provide access and to treat people equally regardless of where they lived. Now if you are in a K-12 district and there are K-12 districts that have those distances that Senator Lamb was referring to, transportation is provided. I do not understand as a matter of equity, as a matter of equity why a student who happens to live a distance from the schoolhouse should not be afforded the opportunity and the transportation to get to that schoolhouse whether they are in one district as opposed to a different district. We do it for other districts. We had ought to do it to affiliated school districts as well. I believe that Senator Lamb's amendment is an attempt to completely gut the bill. I would encourage those of you who have been in support of the bill to reject the Lamb amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler, then Senator Scofield.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I also would like to urge you to reject the Lamb amendment. It is hard to analyze sometimes what the effects of different things are, but it seems to me that the issue that is in front of us here is whether we are going to adopt a system of free affiliation or whether we are going to adopt a system of forced affiliation. Senator Lamb's amendment is basically a forced affiliation amendment because if the two school districts cannot agree with each other, then they are going to the county reorganization committee. The county reorganization committee, and I think from the point of view of understanding the mechanics of how this would work, is probably going to be biased in one direction or another and in most of the places where this issue is going to be important it is going to be biased towards the Class I school districts. And the reason for that is simple, it is because of the statute that sets up this county reorganization committee that is going to force the affiliation and under that all of the school boards in the whole county get together and they have a big caucus and each class of school districts has to have one member on this six to ten member reorganization committee, only one member of the six of ten. So the Class III's would have one, the Class II's would have one and the Class I's would have at least one. But then all of the other members of