

sessions away, five complete legislative sessions, including this one, will have occurred before that ever comes into operation. Statistically, less than half the members here will be here at that time. I say move it up, give you three complete legislative sessions, including this one, to get the 40 percent implemented. The bill is going to pass. Seize the opportunity and do something really historic in education, change the financing system and get it done with the people who are committed to it because within those three legislative sessions the bulk of the people here will still be here. I repeat, the bill is going to pass. The Class I's are going to say, we're going to stop it. Well, they are wrong. They had their chance and they blew it. I'm saying they blew it. They could have killed this bill, had it been done right, probably on General File. It wasn't done right. Effort went in five different directions, from committees, to kill motions, to amendments. It was done wrong, so they lost. In fact I suspect it would never have advanced had not the Lamb amendment gone on originally. That put about four votes. But you can look at the bill. You can look at the voting pattern. There are 25 minimum votes for this bill, and there are about 29, by any study you want to make of that voting pattern, absolutely committed to it. Whether it is Harris coming on on a 25th vote regularly, whether it's somebody else backing off, there are 25 solid votes for this bill. The opposition has between 17 and 20, even though we keep mustering 21 or 22 because, you know the way it's played. The point is this bill is going to pass. Why not do something significant with it while it's going? I urge you to adopt the amendment. You've got three complete legislative sessions to get that financing. How much does it amount to? One and a half cents if you use sales tax, \$150 million. You may find some other method. Why string it out five years and probably lose the chance to get anything done, have a complete new Legislature in here who isn't committed to it and isn't a part of it, isn't a part of the thing here today, why not get it done, face up to it, so I move it up a couple years? Three complete legislative sessions, and 40 percent, a lot of us would like to see it only 30 or 33; 40 percent is a reasonable compromise. I urge you to adopt the amendment. I guess I'm ready to say the bill is going to pass. If I can get some reasonable amendments, and if the other opponents can work out something maybe they think needs to be done, I think we should be ready to say okay, let's get the bill passed, since it's going to pass anyway,