

original Class I district at the time of the vote will be able to vote whether or not to keep that attendance center open. Now that provision according to the Attorney General, I will read the last line, said "We are of the opinion that the constitutionality of Section 12 of LB 662 would be very difficult to defend." And it is only logical. If you have a city, you don't allow the people in one block, that live in one particular block, to decide whether the sidewalk should be ripped up or whether the sidewalk should be improved. You know, you are a part of a whole and so the whole district decides. And so to have it otherwise certainly is constitutionally suspect. And so that has been one of the provisions of the bill which the supporters of the bill have said we are not going...we are not going to close schools unless the people want to. I offer this as evidence that that will not happen, that the schools will be closed because the majority of the people in that district will say that the attendance center should be closed and I am not arguing that some of them should be closed but I am just saying that the supporters of the bill have in effect led us astray when they said that this guarantees that that attendance center would stay open.

SPEAKER NICHOL PRESIDING

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR LAMB: Do I have any time left, Mr. Chairman? I would just like to say in closing, I ask you to vote against the bill. Don't vote for this bill and we will have a meaningful public hearings this summer. I pledge myself and I know a number of other Class I people who will be looking for a method by which this can be resolved. Do you know, we do have already, we have a method in the statutes by which Class II's are closed. Now if you get down below 25 students, if you are a certain distance from another school, then those schools are automatically closed. There is no reason that this Legislature, that the State Department of Education, or some other person or group cannot come up with language which will close those schools which deserve to be closed. I ask that you vote against this bill.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Lamb, I apologize for interrupting. I couldn't see because the vice clerk was in my road. Senator Vard Johnson.