

awesome force is there will be ultimately school reorganization and there will be ultimately refinancing of education. It is a glacial force that we are putting into motion that should not be stopped, that should not be stopped, because you and I, as legislators, have a responsibility to the common schools of our state and to the children who enjoy those common schools and that responsibility is to develop over the long pull the best system of organization, finance, and instruction as humans can devise.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, and members, I rise, of course, to oppose LB 662 in its present form. I have done so on all three occasions that we have voted up to this point. I would like to point out a couple of things. We are probably a half hour away from making I think a historical decision upon school reorganization and school financing and I guess Senator DeCamp has made it very clear to us, he has told us quite frankly that school financing cannot come through any other form than through the backs of the school consolidation bill. I assume that he means that 505 and some of the other school bills that we have had cannot pass on their own merit and thus we have got to find a vehicle in which to sell that idea to the body as a whole and certainly that may be the case and I assume that this body will probably pass 662 but I want to point out to you one very important fact. After today's decision, we will never be able to go back and change to the system as we know it today. Those schools will in some form change. I am not saying change is bad but I am saying that quite frankly this is a historical decision for this body to make and the question I have constantly asked myself is one which I would like to ask you before I quit. It is simply this, will we have a better education system in this state after consolidation than we presently have? Can we provide a better education process to our citizens through 662 than we presently have in place today? I am not sure that 662 is the answer. It has a lot of, I think some flaws. However, I do think that it probably is one that will probably pass. I know that the proponents worked very hard to sell this bill to the body. They have been successful. I applaud them for that. On the other hand there are those of us who still have great concerns about this issue and I would just ask you to take into consideration the fact, are we