

arbitrate. Silly, it's a silly notion. School boards can't be trusted, cities can't be trusted, NRDs can't be trusted, contractors can't be trusted, businesses can't be trusted, unions can't be trusted to be allowed to agree to binding arbitration. They are not big enough boys. They just don't know how the game is operated and they aren't in a position to defend their own best interests in the bargaining process. There are things in the bargaining process that shouldn't be talked about and we must save these people from themselves. That is not the essence of local control, nor is it, by the way, an appropriate response from a conservative. Arbitration is an alternative dispute resolution and if there is a ringing endorsement in this body for the way courts act, I want to hear it now because if everybody who was not voting on this last amendment stands foursquare behind the way the court system operates, thinks it's doing great guns and is entirely happy with the process and rate and speed with which cases are dealt with, then it will be news to me. I don't hear that on any other issue. Come time to talk about judicial qualifications, I don't hear about how great the court system is. Come time to talk about judicial salaries, I don't hear how great the court system is. Come time to talk about judicial pensions, I don't hear how great the court system is. But now when we want to keep that system as the only mechanism, as the father figure who is going to settle these problems rather than allow people to work them out themselves, now it is a terrific mechanism. If it is a terrific mechanism, I suggest you take a case to court and see what it feels like to have it drag on for 18 months. If you think that is the way to keep labor peace, you are mistaken. If you think that is the way to resolve contractual disputes between contractors, I think you will be mistaken. Arbitration is a cost effective means...

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Landis, one minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...thank you, a cost effective means that will reduce costs for the public and allows people to determine their own fates. It leaves the big boys on the block to bargain between each other about the rules that they are going to be bound by and to vote against that notion is to simply say that the people out there are incapable of understanding and defending their own interests. I don't have that low opinion of their abilities. I am ready to entrust them with that and this is