

and right to settle their disputes within the school board before the matter even reaches arbitration. The school boards simply want to keep status quo because they know more folk are likely to exercise their rights.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lynch, then Senator DeCamp, Senator Beutler, Senator Lundy. Senator Lynch first.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. Chairman and members, it does appear to be just the powerful against the weak, in my opinion, or those that appear to be weak. Individuals or groups of individuals should have the right with any kind of bill under any kind of system to be able to negotiate in their own behalf. It's as simple as that. And what we do by opposing this kinds of legislation is to make it harder for individuals or individuals in a group to negotiate in their own behalf. Not all teachers are in the union. You all know that and that is obvious, but they are still teachers. They work in a field where there is some common ground and probably some predetermined understanding about what those kinds of responsibilities and skills are worth and this is completely out of proportion. It's not that major a piece of legislation at all and I think it is something if you support, you can be absolutely proud of because you've let Nebraska, along with a lot of other states, finally get into a circumstance and position where we are, in fact, fair to people, where we don't support legislation that continues to help and perpetuate the powerful against the weak. It is a consumer bill. I would hope you would support it. I'm not too excited about the amendment because it does weaken it, but if the amendment would help it pass, and in principle something like this could be established, it would be a step in the right direction.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator DeCamp and then Senator Beutler.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, Senator Johnson and Senator Beutler and Senator Lynch have all raised different arguments that I think need to be addressed. Senator Johnson suggests that 44 other states "do this". I submit that that is completely erroneous. I submit to you, if you will take the time to check, you will find there is not another state in the United States of America that has a "system" such as we already have in effect through the Commission on Industrial Relations. I repeat, there is no other state that has a system like this already set up.