

closing. We are now voting on the Vickers amendment as amended. All those in favor will vote aye, those opposed will vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Vickers' amendment.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Vickers' amendment is adopted. Before we proceed, if you will permit me, I have the pleasure of announcing guests of Senator Baack in the north balcony this morning. Sponsors and 8 students from Leyton High with their teacher. They are in the north balcony. We welcome you to the Nebraska Legislature. If you would rise, we would be happy to welcome you, please. Do you have anything further?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hartnett would move to amend the bill and his amendment is on page 1305 of the Journal.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Hartnett, please.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, my amendment is found on page 1305 and what it does is it simply allows school districts to opt out of the ESUs if they so desire, if the board of education so desires as of May the 1st, 1988. In the meantime, we will have two legislative sessions. We will have the study which I support before that time and I think we have to look at the history of ESUs. When the ESUs came in in 1965, they were to do away with the county system. That really has not happened. We still have the county systems. We have the ESUs and so I think that this, what I am proposing is that this is the first time that boards of education, local boards of education will be able to evaluate what the ESUs do for them, and I think this is very important. I know that ESUs have boards and I think I would ask you if you can name the members of your board. And so I think that all...there should be evaluations I think before a 20-year period, and so forth. And so I think the bottom line, I think, the boards of education will be making is, is ESUs providing adequate service at a reasonable cost. We do have in this state and we did have at one time where counties could get out of ESUs by a vote and that has been stricken out, and so forth, but the ESUs at first were to replace counties and that has not happened, and so forth, so I think that we should give local boards of education the vote to