

people to stay in things they do not want to be in. We do not have border guards around our political boundaries and I think this points out the need to make certain that what happens in those political boundaries is acceptable to the majority of the people in that political boundary or you are going to continue to have the moves that we have with the Hartnett amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you, Senator Vickers. Senator Beyer, please, on the Hartnett amendment.

SENATOR BEYER: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I can only echo the sentiments of the two previous senators. I realize Senator Hartnett is protecting his district, but by the same token I think we all have to protect ours, and since we did adopt the amendment creating a study committee, I think that that is where it should belong. They can work it out. Senator Hartnett would have the same two years to come back in and introduce legislation then to do that if that did not work out with the committee, and I would think that that would be the more proper way to go. Thank you.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Mr. President and members of the body, it is not often that I disagree with my colleagues, Senator Rod Johnson and Tom Vickers and Emil Beyer, on an issue such as this but I am going to support Senator Hartnett, and I will tell you why. A number of years ago when I was much younger, I introduced an amendment to a bill once to allow the counties to opt out, and you know it created a tremendous amount of concern on the part of the ESUs. In fact, as I recall, the hearing room was filled from wall to wall and roof to ceiling, roof to floor, but, in any case, I just want to point out that with...you know sometimes we need a little bit of an incentive on these studies. It is easy to have a study and come to no conclusion and I have been here long enough to have seen many of them. And I think that somehow or other that perhaps the adoption of the Hartnett amendment might bring about a better result. Senator Rod Johnson spoke about the situation that exists with the NRDs and LB 902, and I just want to tell you that we heard that bill not once, we heard it twice. We have heard a lot of conversation about how the NRDs are operating and can they improve their performance, and I can tell you, very frankly, that the introduction of