

the Southeastern Community College Board that the Fairbury Campus ought not be closed, and I thought about it. I voted against that resolution, incidentally, so did two other people vote against that resolution. If you pass LB 796 today in the current form, a form with which I agree, incidentally, a form in which I agree that authorizes new levy increases for our vocational technical schools, and if at the same time you still leave alive a resolution which, in effect, tells one board of directors, please preserve the status quo, what you really are saying collectively is we are more than prepared to allow additional property taxes irrespective of how they are used and, in fact, we, as a legislative body, we, as a legislative body, are prepared to direct local boards of trustees not to take any changes that will result in economies, efficiencies, or what have you. Now I think it was inappropriate for this Legislature yesterday to say to the Southeastern Community College Board not to close the Fairbury Campus. I don't think we have any business intervening in those affairs. I understand the need of Senator Morehead, the introducer of the resolution. I don't begrudge it. I respect it but a lot of us don't live in that area and we can afford to vote the way we know is right to vote which is not to intervene in local affairs and which also is not to continue to send signals, to send signals that we are going to allow additional property taxes through 796, and in addition direct the local community college boards to keep up the same thing they currently are doing, to tell them not to make change, to tell them not to look for efficiencies, to tell them not to look for economies, to tell them not to scale back when necessary. So I suggest we bracket LB 796 until April 1, and in the meantime maybe some person who voted for the resolution yesterday or who abstained from voting for the resolution yesterday will file a motion to reconsider, will file a motion to reconsider, so that when all is said and done, this Legislature does not send the wrong message to the local community colleges which wrong message would be we will allow an additional property tax increase and we will, in effect, chastise you if you attempt to make any changes which are made in the name of economy and efficiency. That is the purpose of the bracket motion.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you, Senator Johnson. Senator Vickers, on the bracket motion, please.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members. Senator Johnson