

Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lamb, would you like to close on your motion?

SENATOR LAMB: Yes, Mr. President, members, I have gone a long way. I am a long way from the original bill. The original bill, as you know, says nonresident tuition shall not be more than 1.5 times per pupil cost. I think that was reasonable. I think that was reasonable, 1.5 times what it costs you, 1.5 times. Now this amendment which was drawn up by the State School Boards Association goes too far the other direction. I am trying to be reasonable. You heard Senator Vard Johnson stand up there and say he would be incensed if he was part of a school district which had to pay \$46,000 nonresident tuition. What I am saying is there should be some flexibility, that the receiving district can do some things. We can sit down here and be a school board for the whole state but I don't think we want to do that. I don't think we should do that. I think we should leave some of the authority in the hands of those local people. Now they have the right to charge the maximum. There is nothing in the amendment that says they can't charge the maximum but it does give the right for them to charge less. I think that is very important, and as far as I am concerned, it is of utmost importance to me and to the school districts out there, both receiving districts and sending districts, because I don't know whether you know about it but there are a lot of receiving districts that don't like the formula. They don't like the formula, because as I mentioned before, the amount is too low. The amount in some cases is much less than the per pupil cost. Under the present language on the books, the receiving district can charge per pupil. They can bring it up to per pupil cost. If you strike the language from the statute as proposed in the Withem amendment, they won't be able to do it. They won't be able to do it. They will be locked into that lower number and that is not fair. What I am trying to do is introduce reasonableness into this whole situation. This amendment to the amendment is a reasonable one. I ask that it be adopted.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the adoption of the Lamb amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. A simple majority on this one. Have you all voted? Senator Withem.