

very same thing this year. Let's not put the cart before the horse. I know it's a good whip, but what I see it as is once it's in statute it doesn't come back out as easy as it went in sometimes and I think that we are being a little bit premature. Some of the services, if we did not have the ESUs, I'll relate it back to special ed, it would simply close some of the Class I schools and I know maybe that may or may not be a goal, but we do need their services. We had another bill introduced where we only allowed them one cent for administrative purposes and that they could then contract for. We know there are problems. We know they need to be addressed, but I, personally, think the whip is coming down entirely too hard by including it statewide.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rupp.

SENATOR RUPP: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I was going to call the question, but I would like to make a few comments and kind of expand a little bit on what Senator Schmit and Senator Morehead said. I'm not sure how I will vote on this particular amendment of Senator Hartnett's. I guess I would just...I appreciate Senator Hartnett's efforts here and I read in the statement that he circulated to us that this is merely, I think, to determine the degree of seriousness of the study and I think that I would agree with his analogy that if we don't have a club over somebody's head, there might be a study held and as usual, some little thing will fly across our desk that only half of us will read and very few of us will pay any attention to and that will be the end of it. And to tell you the truth, he caught my attention with a total statewide property tax burden now exceeding \$10 million and I know I have been criticized for what ESUs are and what they are doing as have most of you and I'd just like to expand a little bit on the thoughts here this morning. I would disagree with Senator Morehead, I guess, that we're locking something into statute here because we all know with the effective date of June '87 that next session would have every opportunity to unlock, in fact, if the study had been serious. Senator Schmit said that the ESUs have expanded into a minibureaucracy, I guess, maybe trying to become a maxibureaucracy and I would expand on that and say that I don't really see a lot of difference between ESUs and NRDs in that respect and he didn't mention that. Some of them are good and some of them are less good, but I think they both generally fall into the same category in that some of them have the luxury of operating in a vacuum. They are operating in a vacuum. Senator Wesely developed some information on the boards of NRDs where over 70 percent at one election recently ran unopposed and, of