

would like to see affiliation work for a year or two. Let's see what we have and try to learn from that concept before we rush into cramming this down the Class VI districts' throats at this point in time.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Madam President and members, I wasn't going to speak until Senator Rasmussen talked about Omaha Westside and how it was a special situation. I couldn't help but rise to my feet. You know the trouble, I mean, this time I'm going to speak to the amendment itself and the problem I have is this body always tends to act somewhat dysfunctional when it gives directions to what schools ought to do. You know when we think of Class I's we only think of the small rural isolated building out in the middle of nowhere. We don't think of the former Class II high school district that formed a Class VI and that's going to happen...I hope that happens more. And we always say we're going to encourage that, though we always pass laws that penalize that. Last year 1063 penalized, the people that penalized in my district were the people who had consolidated their schools, went to the larger town and did away with their small Class II high school. And we turned around and penalized them. My concern, I mean, I think in the future we're going to see more Class...the pressure is going to continue to be on this Legislature to do away with Class II schools and the argument is going to be a quality issue is what is going to be there, you know, but when you pass legislation like this you put up an impediment to that because the fact is if three or four small Class II's, want to form a Class VI school, maintain their own identity, have control over their own grade school in their community but yet bite the bullet, consolidate for the better good for quality reasons and for taxation reasons, you could still argue well you still have control over your small grade school in your community and this amendment does away with that. That's been my concern all the way along and it's not...it's easy to think of that rural, the one that Senator Withem mentioned, the rural Class I that is strictly nothing but a tax and I'm not going to defend that, but the fact is not all of them are. And if we're going to encourage Class II's to close, we shouldn't be impediments to that closure like this amendment. And I think the Class VI's was always a totally different environment. You had a lot of cases where people for a variety of reasons and some of them, yes, for tax reasons, some of them were also quality of education reasons saying that we can't