

March 22, 1983

LB 454, 465, 490

CLERK: Mr. President, if I may right before that, 454 has been reported to Select File; Public Health has reported 490 to General File with committee amendments attached. That is signed by Senator Fenger as Chair. (See pages 1061-1063 of the Journal.)

Mr. President, with respect to LB 465, it was a bill introduced by Senator Wagner. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 19. It was referred to the Education Committee for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File, Mr. President. I do have committee amendments pending by the Education Committee.

PRESIDENT: Senator Vickers, do you want to take up the committee amendments?

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, the committee amendments on LB 465 gut the bill actually and put in new language that is designed to do one thing and that is to put a moratorium on the problem of school district boundaries that are affected by annexation of cities with school districts of the third class within their boundaries. The Education Committee has been asked every year since I have been here to make a decision because of problems arising between school districts when these annexations take place. In the past we have attempted to change the law first one direction and then the other as it affects Class 3 districts versus Class 3 districts. We have continually been faced with the problem of Class 3 district as it annexes...as the city annexes into a Class 6 district and how to address that situation. The committee this year decided that what we really need to do is to have an indepth study of this situation and hopefully over the summer come up with some sort of a mechanism to put the state in a position that would be as neutral as possible in these boundary disputes. So what we are attempting to do with the amendment to LB 465 is to, number one, buy the committee and the Legislature that one year's time. And, number two, put the mechanism in that would say to both parties that we are not too apt to go either direction either toward the side of the one annexing school district or the other side, but instead set up some sort of a neutral mechanism. Now by putting the moratorium in we were hopeful that the local districts will assist us, assist the committee and assist the Legislature over the interim in seriously looking at this situation. Quite frankly, it has been very difficult for the committee to make a decision based on where the boundaries should be in areas that do not directly affect a lot of the members of the committee, and it seems that it is unfair for the Legislature to be asked to make