

think that Senator Lamb's amendment now addresses that. Presently the bill has no practical affiliation in it.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson, then Senator Landis.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I am going to rise in opposition to the amendment offered by Senator Lamb on the affiliation issue. Now LB 662 today has an affiliation provision in it. That will not be stripped out. It will not be stripped out. It will be left in the bill. Senator Lamb recognized that there were some problems with the affiliation language that he put in the bill on Select File, and Senator Lamb said, I have got to clean it up, but in addition I want to put a few other things in and here is the packet of the other things. What Senator Lamb would do with the affiliation, in my view, is he would literally make affiliation so attractive to a Class I school district that was a tax haven school district, that the merger process would never be effected, never be effected. And we would simply have an affiliated school out there forever and a day until the Legislature in 2009 decided to finally take care of that problem. So what a number of us have done is we have taken the affiliation language of Senator Lamb's and we have cleaned it up and we have simply said the affiliation process can be a perfectly viable process but it has to be approved not just by the Class I school district but in addition by the receiving school district. That is only fair in part and parcel of the reorganization process. That is only fair, right and just, and that is what we said. Senator Lamb would unbalance that equation and he would go back and he, in effect, through the affiliation amendment that he is offering would carve the heart out of 662 and he in effect would simply have an affiliated district be a viable option for a tax haven and a tax shelter area for all points in time. That is not a good thing. This is far more than cleanup language. This is eviscerating language and that is not right with the kind of measure that we currently are doing. So I ask you to reject Senator Lamb's amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Landis, please.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I am going to vote against the Lamb amendment, although if it gets adopted, I will still support 662 and feel comfortable with it. Let me tell you that we are now