

reorganization committees. Again, what these amendments do is they say that members will be nominated and elected every four years by the boards of education by class of school district. Currently, it is all of the boards vote on all of the representatives. We are expanding the numbers from 7 to 12. Senator Higgins suggested to me yesterday that her concept is that she likes to have odd numbers, not odd people, but odd numbers of people on boards. Perhaps a Select File amendment to deal with that would be in order. But we are expanding from current 6 to 10 to 7 to 12. We are keeping in the provision that each class of district shall have one member. We are using what I understand is basically what is being done now. We are allowing the school census to determine the appropriate apportionment on these committees as opposed to general apportionment and we are saying that the vacancies, when they are filled, they will be filled from the same class as the individuals that were elected. I would urge you to adopt the committee amendments and then we can get on and discuss the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, sir. Discussion on the committee amendments. Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, we had considerable discussion yesterday about the bill and about the committee amendment. But I have the same concern that I have had previously that this bill has not attracted much attention and it's not because it's noncontroversial. It's just because it's difficult to read. It is difficult to know exactly what it does and not too many people are paying attention to what it really does. Now, the committee amendment, in conjunction with the bill, is devastating. The committee amendment, in itself, is not nearly as bad as the bill but both of those things together give the big school the whole hammer, the whole hammer. It can be sold as a voluntary measure but it is not. It is not voluntary when you have a populace district voting along in the same unit with a less populace district so that in every case the populace district will be able to control. I have not been able to get that point across to large numbers of people. This is sort of a sleeper bill that after it's been in effect for a while you will have all these communities fighting amongst themselves and they will come back and they will say to you, as a member of the Legislature, why did you let that happen? Why did you let that happen? At this point, I am not going to discuss the committee amendments more except to urge you to vote against them. I know that is a lost cause at this point, but I