

vehicle, indefinitely there will be no vehicle for keeping these educational service units together. What we have now is a methodology of accommodating those few school districts that currently do have plans to do something other than be a part of an educational service unit. We bring all of the state into educational service units, but give those school districts that object to that a window to get back out again, and then down the road for restructuring service unit boundaries, we have a provision in the statute with specific criteria and with a requirement that the State Department of Education must rule favorably upon those. Bracketing this motion serves absolutely no function that I can see. I think the educational service unit problem is as resolved as well as it can be in this state with all of the divergent interest that we have, and I think that you should vote no on the bracket motion.

PRESIDENT: Senator Morehead, please, then Senator Miller.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Thank you, Mr. President. I have a question of Senator Withem.

PRESIDENT: Senator Withem, would you respond please?

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Since you have told us once or twice, Senator Withem, I would like to have you tell us again what is the damage that is going to be done if this bill is bracketed?

SENATOR WITHEM: There is a provision in the statute that says effective, I believe, July 1 of this year, any school district in the state who chooses to opt out may do so, then that becomes the law of the state for an indefinite time period, until such time as a law is passed to change that.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Which law could be passed next year?

SENATOR WITHEM: It could be passed next year.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Well, the original 688 with role and mission for educational service units was a fine piece of legislation, and then we incorporated some other ideas into it that I personally am not pleased with, and that was no secret early on. I wish that we would have just written special legislation for your area of the state, Senator Withem, because as it addresses the whole of the rest of the state, I just continue to feel that we are doing some damage as far as the ESUs and what we are going to find as competing interest in cooperatives and