

left. Okay, Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, this bill was before the Education Committee, it didn't take long to figure out what the issue was. This primarily....some alliances were disturbed because the school board made an economic decision which was correct in every aspect, by a unanimous vote, that was to close a school that was no longer needed in terms of number of students attending, faculty, administrators needed. It was a brave decision. But here again is one of those ironies that we speak of often. The people want economical education, efficient education. When that Board of Education made a decision there was considerable anger in that northeast area where Senator Wesely comes from. They talked about what it cost to run and yet Senator Wesely out spent anyone in the city election for school board. I know what he spent and I know what others spent. They also talk about that they need another system, it has only been there two years. Recently the City of Lincoln, its voters, voted to put their city council by district and at large. I think that in itself tells you something. When the people at large vote for a district to start with at large in a general election I think that is proper for Lincoln. Therefore I will oppose 784.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: (No response).

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: (No response).

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Labeledz. We have two minutes left on this bill.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Fowler, I was busy talking a few minutes ago and I didn't hear all of Senator Koch, so I want you to answer me. Was this procedure or the system that they are using now ever on the ballot? The school board. Was District Election ever put on the ballot?

SENATOR FOWLER: There was a charter amendment drive in the City of Lincoln that put the question of district election, Lincoln City Council up for election. That was a citizen initiated drive.

SENATOR LABEDZ: I see, and how did that turn out?

SENATOR FOWLER: No bad, not bad.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Can you tell me how it turned out? When you say not bad?