

support it in its present form. I would encourage your support for the amendment. It is a serious attempt to try and deal with some of the controversy involved with this legislation and the key controversy being, do we have the right to dictate this sort of a policy statewide for all public funds and I say, no, it is more applicable for us to deal with state general funds and that would be the change in this bill.

SENATOR CLARK: Is there any further discussion on the amendment? I am going to call on those here to find out if they want to talk about the amendment. Senator Fowler, does not want to; Senator Marsh, Senator Landis. Senator Landis, do you want to talk on the amendment? He does. Go right ahead.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I support the Wesely amendment. If you noticed when Senator Labeledz was outlining the bill and when Senator Wesely was talking, the body for the most part was not paying attention. They really were not listening very carefully today. They were turning their backs on this issue and talking about the rest of the agenda for the rest of the day, committee hearings, other things that are going on. The Speaker's rostrum was filled with people. Even now they are clustered in groups and I think that is probably where we are with this bill. I think a lot of people understand where they are going to vote but the bill is going to skulk through and we are going to try to be not cognizant of the issues at hand. We are going to turn our backs on it and we are rather embarrassed by this argument precisely because of the Wesely amendment and the position it puts us in. This bill represents, in the event it passes, the near total collapse of the political philosophy of the majority of this body. How many times have we heard on this floor or in committee hearings the sacred shibboleth of local control? We were in the Government Committee yesterday, Rex. We heard it all day long, didn't we, by the county officials? We were there sitting as they said, hey, don't tell us the salaries to have us pay our sheriffs, our assessors. Last year on the district elections in Omaha Senator Labeledz said on the floor, let the people of Omaha decide. This is not a state issue. We have had time and time again people run for office saying, I think local decisions should be made by local decision makers. I don't want to go down to the Legislature and pass these coercive mandating state laws and in this moment LB 125, I have to say I have a rather perverse delight in watching my colleagues turn their backs on their political campaign rhetoric, the promises they made, I am