

(Read title.) The bill was first read on January 19, referred to the Education Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I have no amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wiitala.

SENATOR WIITALA: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I introduced LB 309 to take care of a small problem where residential property of less than five acres finds itself in an alarming position of being divided among two or more different school districts. The provisions of LB 309 would allow the owner residents of such residential property to petition the county superintendent to have their property deeded over to one or another school district. The bill basically sets up a mechanism to do precisely that. As I mentioned this does not affect an awful lot of property but it is very difficult at times to assess, for the county assessor to assess the valuation of that property and decide what portion is going to go to what school district and also being able to determine what school district they should send their children. And so I am attempting to introduce this legislation to resolve that problem. I would ask you to advance this bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle, do you wish to speak to LB 309?

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker, members, perhaps a question of Senator Wiitala, the question being, does this property have to be contiguous with the boundaries that exist or can they pick out chunks within a district?

SENATOR WIITALA: This is not referring to a freeholding piece of land, Senator Kahle. Basically it is a platted piece of property that has a school district boundary that bisects it where the property really lies partially in one district and partially in the other.

SENATOR KAHLE: Okay, you're not trying to transfer property then from one district to the other. You're just trying to determine what part of the taxes goes to each district?

SENATOR WIITALA: Yes, we're trying to make a determination of where that parcel of property should go. I guess the attempt of the bill really is to place that disputed property in one district or the other fully, thereby making a determination of where the students will go to school and also where the assessed mill levy will go.

SENATOR KAHLE: Now does this property have to be in one