

SENATOR KILGARIN: That is correct, Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: So they would not really have the kind of input that perhaps they would like.

SENATOR KILGARIN: Well I think they would have the kind of input that they would like at the public hearing. One of the reasons that many students don't attend these school board meetings is because they have to let the school boards know quite a while in advance to be placed on the agenda and I don't know, it wasn't too long ago, I remember, you know, I had no idea how to be placed on the agenda and with the school board representative non-voting, permissive, school board has control over whether or not they are even on the board, at least they have this opportunity to let their fellow students know how to be placed on the agenda. They let their fellow students know what policy decisions are going to be discussed at the next meeting. You know, I hope that answers your question.

SENATOR KAHLE: Thank you. One of the problems of course would be that even that student school board member could not bring up a subject that wasn't on the agenda. I suppose you could argue that they would be more aware of what the agenda would be. We had this issue in committee when I served on the Education Committee and I think it would take an unusual student to attend the meetings of the school board and unless they attended them all and attended the full length of the school board meeting, I believe they would be very ineffective in doing anything as far as that goes but especially in being influential with any of the issues. I can't imagine a young person wanting to sit from seven-thirty, eight o'clock until ten, eleven, twelve o'clock listening to the old fogies discuss the issues that a school might have. I think they would like to come, give their two cents worth and leave and if that is the case I would not... I think this is one trouble we have with news reporters out in the state especially with county boards. They come, they go and write up their story and then they complain because they are not so welcome but unless you are there all the time and know what is going on it is like this Legislature, if you don't stay here most of the time you aren't going to know what is going on. I would think that school boards could handle this internally without being in statute, that they could say we'd like to have an advisory group or two, one or two people from the student body to come and provide them with some input occasionally. I think that would be much better than putting it in statute. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK PRESIDING