

Nobody is putting it on them. If the school board wants to use it as a tool and there is some question now as to whether they can or cannot use it, this merely enables them, close it up statutorily if they want to use it as a tool they may. I don't know why we deny these local boards options to run their business the way they want to run it. There is nothing mandatory in this. Some schools are doing it now. I ask the question if they are doing it now why in the world do we need legislation? I think it's a good idea. The answer is, there is some cloud as to whether legally, technically they can do it. I think we ought to eliminate that cloud. There is nothing here that forces it. There is nothing here that mandates it. If a school board doesn't want it, doesn't like the concepts, so be it. They don't have to do it but for heavens sakes, if they want to do it, let's give them all the tools they have. I think this is a good piece of legislation and one that should be supported.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Dworak, the School Board Association didn't ask for this legislation. They opposed the legislation. But as long as we're going to...but also the bill does not say they are excluded from executive sessions. It does not say that. It says nothing about executive sessions or special sessions. So the next thing we are going to do is we are going to have a bill to put them on city councils, then let's put them on the county boards, NRDs, Educational Service Units, Voc Tech Boards, Health Education, and let's have some down here in the Legislature. We're elected to represent a debate forum but let's don't do this. Let's let the people or the eighteen year olds or the sixteen year olds or the fifteen year olds come down here too. Let's just not stop with the school board. Let's go the whole way and again I say, the local school boards have not asked for this because in those who opposed it was the School Board Association. Why put the pressure on your local school board? The good Lord knows they have enough now, by having them have to say no to a group of students that come up that want to do something. And what is really the purpose going to be if they can't really get in on the nitty-gritty and have their input when they go to these session meetings. If you're going to go, go the whole way, if it means that much to them or if it means that much to the issue. So I say that this is poor legislation. The school boards have enough to worry about. Those school boards who have them now as Senator Dworak