

that. They are forced, if they can't settle it, to go to the Commission of Industrial Relations. In many, many, many cases they have to hire an attorney and in one case this cost one of the little school districts, \$5,000. They cannot settle it on a local level. Now it behooves me that what is fair for the Class III, IV and V schools is fair for the I, II and VI's. Now you will hear that at one time the one I, II and VI's could have gotten in under this act but they didn't want to. Well there is nothing wrong with somebody changing their mind. You will hear that there is going to be an interim study on this issue. That is fine. Let's have the interim study. I have no objections to that but in the meantime let's give those small schools the same right as the big schools. Then if the interim study shows that the big schools and the little schools should not have this right and they can pass a bill on this floor to do away with that, let's do away with it for both classes. So I am asking you, do not let it drag any longer that the little schools aren't as equal as the big schools when it comes to negotiations. I would like to ask your support to pass this amendment, go ahead and have the interim study. Who knows what it is going to show. Let's give the little schools the same right that they are not forced to go to the CIR and that they can settle it on a local level if they so desire. That is what my amendment does. That is the only thing it does and I ask your support. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the Haberman amendment and I would like to point out a few reasons why. First of all, I think the Education Committee has been very honest and above board with this issue. Now a year ago Senator Haberman had a bill in to do this very thing. I didn't vote to kill his bill in committee but it was killed. Another bill was advanced doing the opposite thing, doing away with the TPNA entirely for all school districts. That bill is out here on the floor. It is not going to go anywhere but it's held...the introducer I think has agreed to hold it back. Senator Haberman introduced another bill this year doing the same thing he is trying to do with his amendment. Strangely enough this amendment was filed in the Journal on February 18. The hearing on his bill, LB 891, which is exactly the same language as this amendment wasn't even held on the Education Committee until the 22nd. So Senator Haberman was attempting this amendment even before the hearing on the bill. Now the Education Committee has heard this issue for two years in a row now and we have decided to study the issue as to whether or not some schools should have the TPNA, some schools should not or whether, in fact, all schools should