

wanting to transfer out into Wyoming. Sure we have some dissatisfaction with districts but I think we have to respect the integrity of district lines. This type of transfer creates tremendous dissention within school districts. It turns one neighbor against another and I say that most of those cases of transfer, if you could get to the real reason, they are not a matter of academic excellence because I think the records will clearly show that the students from the small schools, when they attend the University of Nebraska that their scores hold their own with the largest and supposedly best schools, double A accredited schools in the State of Nebraska. So if you're going to use some of those standards, let's put something like that in. If your school doesn't rate, if the records of the student attending the University is bad, if the standardized test scores are low, then maybe you have something to change, a good reason to change districts, but this simply creates chaos. I believe the whole idea of the transfer originally was the idea to close some of these schools. Now if that is the purpose, be up front about it. Let's bring out some legislation to close them rather than having this kind of a civil war in every small school district in the State of Nebraska. This amendment is not a friendly amendment. It is not minor surgery. It is major surgery and I ask you to defeat it.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President and members, I have a lot of small schools in my district. They've all been consolidated, or not all or them, but a great many of them. They are struggling. They are struggling under the 7% lid. They are trying their best to keep up their curriculum and provide the programs that the parents think they need and that they think are good for the students. What this would do, I'm all for consolidation if that is what you are after, but to do it on a piecemeal basis to divide the community and conquer, is about what Senator Remmers just said, I think is wrong. And school boards are certainly having enough of a burden trying to survive in these times without us giving them that kind of a headache to go along with it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, my mail, my input has been the same as the other three gentlemen that spoke before me. At this late time for somebody to come up with such a substantial amendment when a bill is on Final Reading and use the word substantial difference and not explain it in black and white and force it into the courts, I don't think is fair and is right and I think we just ought to leave it the way it is and if we can't, let's just kill the bill. Thank you, Mr. President.