

April 6, 1982

LB 933

PRESIDENT: Thank you. All right, the motion is withdrawn and now, Mr. Clerk, do you have that motion? We will await the formal receipt on the desk of that motion and then we will proceed. While we are waiting, Senator Beutler, did you wish to further discuss....where are you, Senator Beutler? Senator Beutler, I will recognize you first then to discuss the motion when we get it before us. Mr. Clerk, read the motion.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Kremer would move to suspend Rule 7, Section 3(d) and Rule 1, Section 12 so as to permit consideration of the amendment found on page 1070 of the Legislative Journal without further debate on the germaneness issue.

PRESIDENT: Okay, motion to suspend the rules. Senator Beutler, you may proceed then.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I have to candidly admit at the beginning on this particular one that my objections are not only procedural in nature but are substantive in nature. The bill that you are being asked to adopt this morning, or the amendment that you are being asked to adopt is basically a bill that was heard before the Education Committee. In fact, I think it is exactly the bill that was heard before the Education Committee and which was indefinitely postponed by the Education Committee. It is a highly controversial bill. Basically, the controversy is between the cities of Grand Island in one area, the City of Columbus in another area, their school districts...their city school districts versus Class VI school districts that surround those towns and it is a property feud. It is a feud over who should have the right to certain valuable industrial property that is on the edge of town. The rule right now with Class III school districts which are the school districts within Grand Island and with Columbus is as they expand, as the city expands the school district expands and the territory that they take in becomes a part of the school district. The theory is that the town is all one community, that as the community expands the property should be taken in and it all should be kept within one community. The opposing argument on the other side is that the Class VIs have the right to some protection, that they shouldn't have their property eaten up by the Class IIIs as the community expands. The Education Committee basically rejected this bill because we thought it was better public policy to retain the character of community that exists in the towns and allowing them to take in the territory as they annex. If you adopt a contrary policy, what you may be doing is giving the valuable property that is on