

April 6, 1982

LB 933

if they really are sincere in what they are saying that they want to protect their area, let's have Northwest form a Class III school district just like the City of Grand Island. They will have everything that is being asked for by Maurice's bill.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President and members, I must disagree with my good friend, Howard Peterson. Northwest is in my district and I honestly don't believe that the taxes are the reason for Northwest wanting to retain their area. They have a fine school. I have been there many times. I have talked to the people. Remember, back when this started the reasoning for the construction of Northwest is that they had no place to send their high school students and they quickly constructed Northwest, and that is the background. I certainly understand the situation for Grand Island. But I understand better the situation for Northwest. They are proud of their school. They have a good school. They want to retain their school, and I would ask you to support Senator Kremer's amendment. It is my district and I believe in it.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Haberman. We will go on to Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President, colleagues, the opposition to this amendment says it is not critical. It was important enough for a Senator to write a bill about this. We set a precedent back in 1976 as Senator Howard Lamb pointed out, we did it for Westside School in Omaha. We spent a lot of time this morning talking about what is fair and what is not fair. I don't really have any particular interest at all in this amendment, but I have a lot of interest in seeing that this body is fair and impartial. Now I don't believe any committee, whether it is Education, Public Health, Judicial, or whatever, is impeccable. I think they make mistakes the same as anybody else. I have seen a lot of good bills killed in committee simply because of coalitions, simply because one particular group said, oh, we don't want that one. But I think as an urban Senator just in fairness to Senator Kremer and his constituents I would vote to suspend the rules and let the entire body decide if this issue is good or bad. I don't have any axe to grind in it except one, we have brought bills back before that have been killed in committee and to say this isn't critical and that it is not important because the committee killed it I think is a nefarious argument. So I would rise to support that Senator Kremer be allowed to suspend the rules and bring

10233