

heard, there has been a disagreement as to which committee this particular bill should be referred to. LB 225 is a bill that would allow families who live within the three-mile zoning area of Lincoln to choose to send their children into the Lincoln Public School District instead of having to transport them 15 or 20 miles to Waverly or Malcolm or Norris High School. It is an absurd situation that I think we need to address. We have heard the free-choice bill that Senator Baack has had before our committee. We heard a bill that Senator Warner had concerning the choice issue. The same people that testified on those bills will testify on this bill as well. If you look, if you have had a chance to look at the memorandum from the city council attorney for the City of Lincoln, he said this is really a school district matter, it is a school district issue and I think that this should probably be before the Education Committee. It is not a major item. I am sure the Urban Affairs Committee could conduct a very reasonable objective hearing on the matter. My point in doing it was for convenience and to save time because these issues have already been before the Education Committee, they have heard them once. They are familiar with them, and they could give a more...it would not take them as long or as much testimony to try and examine them, and so, therefore, considering that, I would ask that you rereference this bill to Education Committee, just as Senator Pirsch's bill the other day was rereferenced. The only reason it was referenced to the Urban Affairs Committee was because it was...it was in the zoning statutes, not in the education statutes. But as the city attorney indicates, it should be amended to be in the education statutes, and as a matter of fact, it is an education bill. We should assign bills to committee on subject matter, not just because what happens to be the statute that is being amended, and I would yield the rest of my closing to Senator Lamb that wanted to make a couple of comments.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lamb, please.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, I serve neither on the Urban Affairs or Education Committee, and this certainly does not affect me directly, but I did serve on the Education Committee for ten years and it seems to me that this is a subject that the Education Committee deals with all of the time, and while the ramifications of this bill may directly affect urban areas at this point, the long-term ramifications are much more widespread, and so it seems to me that logically this bill