

amendment what would we do. And I may not be able to express this very well, but I will do the best that I can. Senator Coordsen mentioned, for example, that there is a possibility, he did not know that this would happen, but there is a possibility that a group of parents might say to a school board, listen, if you don't make this change we're all going to, en masse, leave and opt out and hold the school board hostage. I, too, could not say whether that would or would not happen. But I'm kind of curious, if we pass the Hefner amendment, how you study that issue. Do you go out into the area and ask on a public opinion? Do you say, listen, if this bill passed, would you all at some point get together and hold your board hostage and then we just take their word for it? I mean how do you actually study that possibility when, in fact, it's an unknown? That's like asking me when a crisis may come, Senator Bernard-Stevens, how are you going to behave, what are you going to do? And I think what I would tell you is what I would like to think I would behave like, what I would like to think that I would do, but what I would actually do under those circumstances I think I will be the first actually to know, and the person would be...that it would happen to would be the second person to know because you don't know until you get there. So I'm not quite sure how this extra year of study is actually going to answer some of the questions that some of the people have. I guess what I would like to say is that I would hope that we would not agree to the Hefner amendment because we've already done the Hefner amendment. It's already there, in essence. We've taken a speedy process and made it slower. Senator Hefner would like to make it real slow. What we've got in the bill at this point is a first year reprieve for what Senator Hefner wants to do. The first year in the phase-in says that, if you do not wish to participate, you do not have to participate. You do not have to participate the first year. That is one entire year that you can sit back, talk to your people, analyze what is happening to the school districts that are participating and that gives you an entire year to look at your own personal situation of what you might be doing. The second year is also a very slow year, and this is where it will affect small schools is that is their cap on a 5 percent...there is a 5 percent cap on those students optioning out of the resident district. After it's more than 5 percent, we stop it. And that is for the entire year that they can now look at their program, ask why and what's going on, why are people leaving, where are they going, what's being offered that we can't do? Is this something that we can deal with or not? That's two very slow, but long years of