

only card game in town. One of the strongest cards to be played is a lawsuit. So if the Legislature does not pass the bill and create a district system, I'm not at the mercy of Senator Labeledz and Jim Moylan. The federal courts are still open and already a federal judge in a county that is not as large as Douglas County, it was Thurston County, imposed a district system of election and created seven commissioners to serve on the board in that district, in that county. So if you want to continue the charade that Senator Labeledz's amendment creates, you have not deprived for all time those nonwhite groups in Douglas County of representation. We will just have to raise some money, we'll have to seek the legal help and we'll have to go to court. And I gave you an article that shows that based on a 1986 U.S. Supreme Court decision there is a great likelihood that we will win. We will first be able to show that no black person has ever been elected to the Douglas County Board, that when the matter was brought to the Legislature to create a pure district system, the Legislature refused to act. And I do believe that we will prevail in federal court. It will be expensive, but I've already talked to some lawyers who are willing to donate the time and unfortunately in one county we will have a situation where, because of the racism,...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...the federal courts interpose themselves to impose systems that would bring about a greater degree of equity. And the public school system where it should not have been necessary, but was, the courts ruled. In the political arena where decisions are made about people's lives, it should not be necessary. But if it is, I will accept the challenge that the Legislature is giving me, but I hope it doesn't have to go to that. I'm asking that you vote yes on the reconsideration motion.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Labeledz, followed by Senators Hall and Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR LABEDZ: I'll waive.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I rise in support of the motion to reconsider the vote. It's rare that I don't agree with Senator Labeledz, but on this case, in this issue