

all voted? Record.

CLERK: 17 ayes, 24 nays to recess, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The motion to recess fails. An amendment on the desk, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Smith would move to amend the bill. (The Smith amendment appears on page 1781 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the body, Dan, I don't...I'm not trying to prolong this effort. As you know, I have had a problem with the formula from the beginning. I'm not sure that this is going to even do what I want to do but I'm trying to make an effort to address the concerns that I have. I have told you all, we all know it, that this is weighted very heavily toward those who already have the most as far as salaries are concerned and there is going to be very little that's going to rural areas or to those teachers who, unfortunately, are not in that salary scale or that salary level where they're going to be able to benefit by this unless their board decides to do something about it. If we really are concerned about the teachers and the teachers' salaries, then I think we have to really be...we have to address this and so I am...this is my effort to try to do that. I'm worried about those rural teachers that are going to fall through the cracks with this present formula so my amendment will propose to increase...I guess, first of all, I'll talk about one side of the issue and that is where you have the...in Conway's amendment where we have the range from 16 to 19 counting as .6 of a full-time employee, I would like to lower that amount where they can come in...you had it at 16,000, correct? I'm lowering that to 14,000. My purpose for that is to encourage the rural district to raise the salaries in that first year and also still allow them, if those salaries are lower, for reasons that they can't really do anything about, not because they could but because they can't, it's difficult for them to, that would lower the amount down to the 14 so that those...they can come in that first year. Then the next year it would jump to 16 in order for them to be able to buy in, and then in the next year it would go to 17, so that we're lowering that figure where they can actually come into the pool and that takes some of the money then, more of the money, at least, out or retains that amount that would have been originally in Phase I out in the rural