

change the system. As a matter of fact, I carried the bill that would have allowed Douglas County to have home rule provisions. I happen to think, and that change was requested on their part, I carried it on their behalf. I happen to think that that goes hand in hand with district elections. I don't think you can have home rule without first having district elections. This, LB 588 and the amendment that I offer to Senator Chambers' amendment is the first step in that direction. After we adopt this amendment and adopt Senator Chambers' amendment, move the bill over to Select File, I intend to offer that home rule amendment to the bill because I think it is something that needs to be discussed as part of this whole process because Senator Lynch, in effect, is right. The change is not a change unless you do something else and that something else is the home rule issue. But you can't wait for that at this point in time. I think what we have to do is put this process into place, allow that to happen so that then they can work the system as they would like to see happen because those changes were initiated by the Douglas County Board and were...I was asked to carry that on their behalf to raise that issue. This amendment starts us down that direction, I think allows for a compromise of sorts with regard to the representation that is there. I think the issue of five to seven members is really not an issue when you look at Lancaster County, for example, and Douglas is twice the size. We're asking for an increase that is minimal. I would never see those numbers ever increasing down the road. I think this is a very viable amendment that would allow for a win situation on both sides to a certain extent and then we talk about home rule which does change the system to fit with the election process. I would urge the adoption of the amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. And the question before the body is the adoption of the Hall amendment to the Chambers amendment. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 15 ayes, 6 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Hall's amendment to Senator Chambers' amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The amendment is adopted. Back to the Chambers amendment as amended. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I listened very carefully to what Senator Lynch said and there