

was supportive of and am supportive of because it provides for affiliation on the high school level, they pay their fair share, but it leaves the grade school clearly separate, clearly independent and does not affect that at all. Now that was the original compromise, that's what I promoted. Senator Landis, others will remember that he was somewhat...you know, first Senator Landis then me, he was somewhat complimentary about my attitude toward that, and I remember that. But now we have the committee amendment which says, no, that's not good enough. We're not only going to have affiliation in the high school, but we are going to have what is very close to mandatory consolidation because we are going to have a common levy for the grade school with the Class I and the K-12, which is going to affiliate here. We're going to say, we're going to put all that money, whatever levy is required, for the whole affiliation group, however many schools have decided to affiliate here together for high school purposes. We'll also have to affiliate for grade school purposes a common levy so that some people will be subsidizing other people for their school. It's something I cannot accept. My amendment takes that part out of the committee amendment, takes the grade school common levy out. It leaves all the other things in there, where the Class III or II does not lose money under this affiliation concept for high school purposes. It does not lose money, in fact it's very generous. It gives the high school more than they would get if that Class I property was placed on the tax role with the same levy that the K-12 would charge for high school purposes, it's more than that, it's similar to what we have now for nonresident tuition, which is more generous than it ever has been. And that's what I'm saying, I am willing to go with affiliation, have always been willing to go with affiliation for the high school part of it, but I want to keep those grade schools separate, have their own levy, do their own thing with their own money. And I also think that this may have constitutional problems, because you're taxing one school district and then the money all goes into a pot and you fund all the school districts. To me, as a nonlawyer, I can't see how that can hold up. But you know lawyers do funny things and courts do funny things. So I'm not an expert on that. But to me it does not make good economic sense, it does not make sense in this total realm of what we're trying to do is to come to a reasonable solution here. So I ask that my amendment to the committee amendment be adopted and pass the bill.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Withem did you wish to speak on