

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Schmit.

CLERK: Senator, I have AM2091, Bill Drafter version in front of me.

SENATOR SCHMIT: AM2091, right?

CLERK: Yes, sir.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes. Mr. President and members, I offer the amendment, 2091. And I want to call your attention to the fact that the first amendment I handed out contained an error, and Senator Withem pointed it out to me, and it referred to the busing provisions of this amendment. And we made that correction in this amendment, and therefore, at this time, I would ask you to refer to AM2091, which is on your desk and which I have made a note on the top of it. This amendment, ladies and gentlemen, I want to say at the outset that I very rarely enter into these education bills. Most of you, all of you perhaps are more knowledgeable about them than I am, and I usually just go along. I do have an interest in Class I's. I have a great many Class I's in my area, and I have a number of Class VI's that are in the purple area of my legislative district. The Class VI school systems, of course, as you know each contain one or more Class I districts. And the Class VI school districts and each member Class I have their own, separate tax levies. Under the committee amendment a Class VI can voluntarily or involuntarily have an affiliating Class I district added to the Class VI. And under the committee amendment, if a Class I affiliates with a Class VI, the taxing autonomy of the individual member of the Class I's and the Class VI would be destroyed. There would be, as you know, a single tax levy to support all Class I and Class VI educational activity, applied across the entire affiliated members of the Class I's. The Class VI's want to be able to retain the tax autonomy of the Class I's that are part of the Class VI district. Amendments one and two and the first half of amendment three, I want to call your attention to it because it is a new amendment, would exempt the Class VI's and the member Class I's from the uniform tax levy provisions of the committee amendments. It would retain the committee goal of requiring all of the real estate to support K-12 education, and at the same time it would retain the taxing autonomy of the Class I's that are a member of the Class VI. I know that Senator Withem has