

you're next.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: You know, I'm...thank you, Mr. President, and members of the body, I'm really arguing with myself. I really should call the question but I have to respond just a little bit to Senator Lamb. And, yeah, I know what you're saying, Senator Lamb, and I...and I guess it is difficult to get rid of an agency on the floor of this Legislature because there's always somebody who sees the need. But, I guess, in this case, I sort of feel like this is a state function and that maybe rather than dumping this on the...on the local subdivision which, you know, I've had a lot of railing on this floor about the federal government dumping on the states and expecting them to carry out functions. Maybe instead of doing that what we should be looking at is somehow merging this commission into another agency or department that oversees it. We could probably do it and probably save some money in that fashion. I don't know. I think that would be a better approach to this particular agency. Otherwise, we're just as guilty as the feds are of giving our responsibility to somebody else. And my compromise is, I didn't take my whole five minutes here, but I didn't call the question either. Thank you.

SENATOR WARNER PRESIDING

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Lamb has guests this morning. Four students from Goose Creek School and their sponsors from Valentine. If the six people would please stand so the Legislature may recognize them. Thank you for being here. No further lights. Senator Moore, do you wish to close?

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. President and members, we've debated this issue several times on the floor now. The key thing you have to remember is there's basically a choice we have to make. The choice is, one, put the General Funds in the agency; two, do away with it. Yesterday we...I thought I made the choice, we did not choose to fund the agency. If you do not want to fund the agency today, I think you have to punch the button to do away with the agency, bring this bill to the floor. You know, as far as there's been some talk about it's premature to be talking about doing away with the Athletic Commission, and I guess you have to think about the fact that, you know, this is...we're in our second year now where we've subsidized this commission with General Fund dollars. And so I don't know, maybe the first year it was premature, the second year, but now