

about, phased in an increase over a two-year period of time. The schools, the cities and the counties, once the committee amendment was adopted, have no objection to that piece of legislation and the thing that was taken out of there was the negotiations for the rates and obviously that caused great discomfort that perhaps those rates could be jacked up. Well, those rates cannot be done that way now with that committee amendment adopted and I would urge the advancement of LB 418. Be happy to answer any questions. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Now, Senator Chambers, you're recognized to speak.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I mean Mr. Speaker, excuse me, I'm not going to speak long on this bill now because it seems that it's going to pass. I am opposed to it, but I do want to let Senator Maurstad know that despite my voting against advancement of the bill he has done something which rarely happens to me. I felt compelled to vote for something that I did not like, so he has achieved something. I wish that my opposition could stop this bill from moving. My understanding is that there will be additional efforts to amend this bill on Select File and at that time the battle can be renewed. At this point all I want to do is let Senator Maurstad know that I will not support the bill by giving it a vote, but I do want to compliment him for having put me in a corner from which I was unable to escape. Since the game is not over let me say he has me in check. The game is not over at this point, but if he plays as skillfully as he has played up to now he may at least achieve stalemate if not checkmate.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Jones, followed by Senators Landis and Avery.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. Chairman and members of the body, I stand in support of the bill as it stands now. I'm been a little bit concerned about it because it kind of puts you between a rock and a hard (inaudible). You are mandating it out on the little newspapers, but I do have 16 newspapers in my district and some of them are just hanging on barely and one county that don't even have a newspaper so they're going to have to go to adjoining counties for the publication, and I got four other newspapers that's printing them all in one printing office and they're distributing back to the counties, so they'd have to separate the legal notices for each county on that. But it's