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LB 1085

fiscal analysis, and once you do that fiscal analysis then you have a public meeting and you say to the people, look, we've really looked at consolidation and this may make sense; this is what we get in terms of property tax savings, but over here we won't have a school in this community. I think at that point in time you can have a truly intelligent discussion of consolidation. I think what doesn't.... Can I take more time, Senator?

SENATOR ROBINSON: Sure, you bet.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I don't mean to take too much.

SENATOR ROBINSON: No, go ahead. I want to hear it.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I think what doesn't happen often enough is that you never get to the point of serious consideration, and what I think this amendment will do is those people who would want to look at it seriously, who think it should be looked at seriously who are in a minority or who are maybe just a bare majority and there's some strong feeling in the community, they can say, look, the Legislature wants us to do a fiscal estimate and they want us to have a public meeting and talk about what we find out. And once you get that far, Senator, whereas it's true you can bring a horse to water but you can't make him drink and this amendment acknowledges that, I think it's also true though that in some of these situations if you bring the horse to water they will drink. But we never get there because there's so much animosity to even seriously looking at some of these situations. That's the...

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay. I have a question. At the meeting, would it just be one...we're talking about schools, one school district, or would it be more than one school district?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I think they can do it any way they want.

SENATOR ROBINSON: But they couldn't force another school district.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Oh, no.

SENATOR ROBINSON: No. No.