

developing wisdom. The state aid to schools issue has always been billed as a property tax relief issue. But the truth of the matter is it really is not. It is a financing education issue. The truth of the matter is state aid to schools deals with how we are going to support our educational system in our state. Are we going to provide money for teachers, for books, for transportation or what? I think it is time we look at state aid to schools along those lines because those are the correct lines in looking at state aid to schools, not property tax relief. We all know that when we take our dollars and put them in state aid to schools we...ostensibly for property tax relief it doesn't get used for property tax. It gets used for educational purposes, which in the end we really don't begrudge. This is a property tax relief bill. LB 712 is targeted property tax relief. Most states have homestead exemptions far more generous than that of Nebraska. We need to provide a reasonable homestead exemption to deal with the issue of property tax relief. Once it is done we will literally be able to turn our time and attention to other funding questions, but no longer the property tax relief funding issue. I ask your support of LB 712.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Three are excused.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: If three are excused, I think what I'll do is I will...I think I'll just ask for a record vote.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Record vote has been asked for. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Read record vote found on page 909 of the Legislative Journal.) 20 ayes, 25 nays on the motion to advance the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The bill does not advance. Do you have anything, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Yes, sir. Mr. President, Senator Lamb would like to print amendments to LB 38, Senator DeCamp to 453. (See pages 909-10 of the Legislative Journal.)

I have notice of hearing from Judiciary Committee, signed by Senator Hoagland as Chair.