

particular bill at this particular point in time that it is going to be entirely a sales tax, for example, that we are going to rely upon. If you look at the language in the bill, we don't say that we are establishing this year the 45 percent funding of public school system cost. What we say is that from the time of the passage of this legislative bill we will begin the process necessary to accomplish that goal. That is what we are telling the public, that we will begin the process necessary to accomplish the goal. We are not fooling anybody. We are not saying that we are doing it all right now. I don't think we should do it all right now. I think we should give some thought, for example, as to whether we want to involve some income tax in this process as opposed to doing it entirely with the sales tax or whether there are not some other taxes that we might want to think about. I think we should give some thought to the fact that we don't know what revenues are going to be two years off, that another year down the road we will have a better perspective of what revenues are and exactly how much money we will have to raise. That is another question that is involved in the final solution that I think is better left off till next year probably. I think it makes great sense to do exactly what we are doing, to go part way down the road, to say by two years from now we are going to go the rest of the way down the road but we want to keep our options open, to keep things flexible and I think we should leave the bill just the way it is. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Hoagland and then Senator Vickers.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. President and colleagues, I would also rise in opposition to the Warner amendment. Now I recognize that when we adopted the DeCamp amendment that Senator Warner would amend. There was some confusion at that time as to the actual cost of the 45 percent goal that Senator DeCamp's amendment puts in Section 17 and reviewing the history of the financial information we have received, that confusion is entirely understandable because Senator DeCamp's amendment talks about operational costs while the earlier language in Section 17 talked about total funds of such school district. So the obligation to fund 45 percent of the total funds has turned out to be very different than 45 percent of the operational cost and that is understandable. And I recognized that when we adopted the DeCamp amendment because of that confusion in terms many of