

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President and fellow members. Remember that this, there is no limit how far a school board, a given school board, could run us into debt. It's infinite. There is no set limit. Now, we talk about, someone mentioned the Federal Government. We certainly don't want to get into the position the Federal Government is now on fiscal matters. They're so far in debt that they will never get out of debt, never and remember that when you rent, this lease business, it's the same as, the only difference between a bond issue and a lease is that the bond issue has a vote of the people and the lease doesn't so you're going to have to pay for it. It's not free. And who pays for it? Your homeowners, your property owners and your local taxpaying citizens and I think all through our State governmental setup we have, our forebears have always put limits to protect the common average garden variety of citizen like myself from being, having his property confiscated by taxes. Now this is important. We want protection. Now as far as building is concerned, sure, I'm great for building, for capital construction when we can afford it, but I still don't want to get into a position where they're going to confiscate my property and this can happen. There is no money limit on this bill. They can spend as much as they want and a certain given school board, the citizens would have no recourse. Now, Senator Carpenter said, well you could get rid of the school boards. After they spend a hundred million dollars and obligated and citizens or the taxpayers for a hundred million, you get rid of them, what good does that do? We're stuck. Remember this is a very important bill and I know in my heart that my constituents don't want this kind of legislation. They'll go along with the 5 years which gives the school board a chance to get into a position where they can go to the vote of the people and sell their cause. This way it's infinite. They can go in debt just as far as they want, then you can get rid of them but what good does that do. The horse has already been stolen and you're going to lock the door after it's gone.

SPEAKER: Chair recognizes Senator Keyes, then Senator Frank Lewis, then Senator Syas. Chair would remind you we're still speaking on the motion to indefinitely postpone L.B. 197.

SENATOR KEYES: Well, Mr. President, I'm not surprised at Senator Nore although Senator Nore is one of the great exponents of home rule, he likes to talk about the local people having control and that's exactly what this gives them. They're school board and if he don't trust his school board, why don't he run for the school board and get it on himself or why don't he campaign against the present members he has. I'm perfectly well satisfied with my school board. Senator Kelly rather amazes me because Senator Kelly has always spoken for local control. Now this bill simply says that the local school board may, it don't say you have to. Twenty years ago in Papillion in my district where I come from, they would'n't probably have needed this but today they actually need to be able to lease buildings to house the students in to go to school or shut the schools down and I'm not asking that anybody from outstate come in and contribute to our operation of our schools. All I'm saying is that the people in these school districts that have the permission, that they be given the permission to take over any building instead of having to put some quonsets on there that are just on temporary footing and so forth and we've got many students going to schools and we will have a thousand in them in the two years from now and we won't hold school for nine months either because we are not going to do it, but we cannot pass a bond issue. We cannot increase our building fund over 4 mills, maybe it goes to 6 but that still doesn't solve the matter so let's let this school lease a building from anybody that wants to put one up and let the children go to school from that building and those Senators and people in their district that don't want it, you don't have to have it if you can have it by permission only. I'm surprised that when we have something that is going to let the local area decide on it, we come down here and say no, you don't have the right to decide on it, I'm going to set the laws in this State and I'm going to make it possible for you to shut the kids off of