

I wanted to find out what the Rodriguez case and what the people think about in those states. I came up through Louisiana and you just as well stay away from there if you want to know about financing education because they're way behind. And I found out and after talking to probably a thousand people across the State of Nebraska that the people are not interested in state aid to fund education, they're interested in property tax relief and state aid is just simply a means of giving it to them. That's all it is. They say that every school in the State of Nebraska is accredited. Every school offers a good education and those people that are in Papillion school district and think they ought to have three languages instead of one or two want to remember that that costs a lot more money. I don't think state aid is going to be considered on the basis of whether you have three languages or whether you have two or one. I'll say this that there is bills and I've done a lot of work on some of these bills. I've studied Senator Warner's bill and in my estimation it's a conglomeration of something that's not going to be workable. Senator Lewis' bill suits me fine. Brings in \$1½ million more than we generate and that's good. Any time you can pour money into Sarpy county I've never voted against it. But you say that state aid is going to be an impossibility this year, you are mistaken. And I want to tell you something and I'm going to read this to you perhaps at the right time I will pass out the letter. I'll read it to you if I can find my glasses. Here they are. You know, without your glasses you can't see. In traveling across this state I found there are seven things that a state aid bill must accomplish and I don't very often read anything because in my mind it's there but I might just accidentally skip over it. Between 40 and 50% of the financing of education should be paid out of something besides property and when you leave 50 to 60% of the school's financing in property you leave it in the local control and the people of this state want local control. Now the second thing that should be remembered is these funds should not be a part of the present sales and income tax but should be an additional sales and income tax that will not have to be appropriated each year and will remain relevant to about 45% of the operating expense of the schools. In other words, the sales taxes generating about 6 to 8% more this year than it did last year, cost of education is going up the same so this means that if you want to finance about 45% of education, you will do it by setting so much sales and income tax into a fund and it will remain relevant from this day forward. The formula should consider the efforts of the people including not only the property tax but the income tax and the sales tax and should come close to having the people of every segment of our economy pay for the education of these children and it makes no difference whether they do this through sales tax, through income tax, through a property tax but it must be relevant to your ability to pay. The funds for operating the schools must be distributed and I want you to get this, so as to give all the teachers an equitable salary and offer all students the same opportunities for an equal education in the State of Nebraska. And that simply is stating that all the teachers should have a salary that's very relevant, that the students should be offered the same quality of education, not only in the country schools, not only in West Side but in Papillion and in the other schools throughout this state. Now here's something that's very important and I hope the farm Senators listen to this. State aid should make it possible for a farmer in one part of the state to pay a relative amount of mill levy to the same as any other farmer in any part of the state. And by that I mean that if you are paying about 20, 25 mills on your farm for education, that is what the relevancy, what the state, what the farmers should pay over this state. A businessman and a homeowner should have a relative mill levy on his house and his business to support schools that it makes no difference whether he lives in Scottsbluff, whether he lives in Auburn, whether he lives in Omaha, whether he lives in Papillion, he