

SENATOR CARPENTER: Mr. President, can I ask Senator Whitney a question?

SENATOR WHITNEY: I yield Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now Senator is it a fair question to ask what other senators feel like you do in the area that you are concerned?

SENATOR WHITNEY: Senator Whitney, I feel that those Senators who have school districts within them and I know a couple of years ago there were about 25 senators at that time who had school districts within their legislative districts where by they would not receive any appreciable reduction in mil levy and their mil levies will remain at a relatively high levy whereas the mil levies, let us say, of the 5 most densely populated counties in the state, the school districts in those counties would be reduced to a very low level. So I feel that there are probably 25 Senators in this legislative body who are in my position to have school districts that are similar to what I pointed out this morning.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now Mr. President, it seems to me that this is a position that we are always in and aid to schools and attempting to reduce the mil levy on the local level. We divide into two broad groups, those in the population areas and those that are not in there. Now, both sides I would presume are that unless they get what they want they don't get anything. Those that are in that position and I don't know who is, I don't think that they are sincere in trying to reduce real estate taxes. There is no way by anyone who is in this world who can do everything to all schools. Every school is different. You have different valuations and you have a lack of equalization between counties which today I don't think means anything besides what we are talking about. You have people for example run schools in a way that they want them run which is contrary and opposite of the people. You may have many people who want to run the school irrespective to cost the way they run them. That is not peculiar to large schools either. It is peculiar to small schools. The thing that I am concerned about and I really am, is a matter in which we can compromise within the realm of reason without being on either side. I would like to get something done in the area of reduction of property tax on the local level. We passed 172 yesterday which basically does nothing except wash out for one year the increased cost that public schools are now confronted with. It is only a falacy that has no lasting effect. It is only something to skim over so that we can pass the Warner bill or some bill of a similar nature which would have the effect and the purpose of doing something over a long period of time. I'd like to ask the Senators who are in the same category as Senator Whitney at what point are you willing to support this bill? If you get that, are you willing to override the Governor's veto if he veto's it or are we just talking or spinning our wheels. Are we going to use a veto if it happens? I have no knowledge, but if it does happen in order to not get anything, this body has someday to assume the responsibility of state aid to local public schools. There is no better time than now. This bill is not perfect, nobody knows how it will work, or if it will work, and there is nobody in this body that has enough far site in order to know if this is going to work and what the ultimate objective a...a...effect is. You see the greatest problem that we have in the legislation, and the only problem is that we can't convince people that if they do this or that that they are going to come out with as much as they now have. This is the law of self interest. It is the most difficult