

April 4, 1979

LB 285

SENATOR KEYES: Senator Dworak, in LB 1, what was the political subdivision the schools allowed to grow in population before they had to start adding 1%?

SENATOR DWORAK: It is my understanding, Senator Keyes, and since you sponsored that question I imagine you probably know that answer, or cosponsored that bill, but I think we had a three year average on that.

SENATOR KEYES: And wasn't it 3% if it went over 3%? Now I am honest with you right now. I really don't know how much the (inaudible).

SENATOR DWORAK: I think the only thing we had in LB 1 was a three year average.

SENATOR KEYES: If the population increased? Okay, thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Frank Lewis, do you wish to speak to the amendment to the committee amendment?

SENATOR LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, this appears to be a rerun of previous debates that we have had. As you know LB 1 was conceived out of sheer concern for the public in that special session that we had that coincided with an election year which I know had nothing to do with the passage of the bill. I kind of felt vindicated that I didn't vote for it to start with and I appreciate the problem that Senator Carsten and his committee has in trying to, I guess, to make something out of something that wasn't. I think the proposal that Senator Dworak has brought forth is not one of his best. I don't think he carefully thought it out. I don't think he knows who it will drastically affect. One of the fastest growing areas in this state probably particularly in schools, would be the Norris School District, the Fort Calhoun School District, the City of North Platte. I believe that there is a correlation between numbers served and amount of revenue required. For instance, if Fort Calhoun in Senator George's district increases by 7% and I think they probably have close to seven or eight hundred students there, you are talking about a fifty student increase and you are supposed to make that up in terms of the normal increase of 7% in the budget. Senator Carsten, one of the best factors in terms of this particular piece of legislation is that there is some flexibility for growth. I would make my position clear once again that I believe that local expenditures is best left to local people. If I had my way