

March 3, 1980

LB 613

innocuous bill and this one is by Senator Maresh. Senator Maresh also has a problem of a little district and I wish that Senator Burrows was here because I find it very interesting and amusing that we can exempt certain people because they're his constituents, but we certainly can't exempt mine or somebody else's because they represent a larger majority. Well let me tell you about this, and I hope you don't mind, Senator Maresh, but about this poor little school district of Ohioa which I had never even heard of until I had the opportunity to have that public hearing and I really appreciate that. It seems that Ohioa which has thirteen school teachers was told by the Court of Industrial Relations that their salaries were way too low and that they would have to increase salaries by 18%. Well that is a rather subsequent amount and of course, having only thirteen teachers they obviously qualified, Senator Burrows, as a very small district, not quite the \$25,000 that you have lumped them in but maybe the next category just above, small nonetheless. \$200,000 budget Senator Maresh tells me. Now the problem is this. If they cut one teacher they don't receive accreditation anymore so you can't cut any teachers and then the problem is with the 18% increase in their teachers' salaries which represents about 80% of their budget, where are they going to make additional cuts? They really can't. What are they going to do, turn off the electricity, Senator Burrows? Where are they going to make the cuts? I would suggest to you that we can go from \$25,000 and have another category and just as meritorious from \$25,000 to \$100,000 and another category from \$100,000 to \$200,000 and so on and so forth and I can certainly present probably if I wanted to, which I don't, a good case to the City of Omaha, why the City of Omaha should be exempt from the lid bill. The point is simply this. If you are opposed to lids then you are opposed to lids. If you support lids, you support them. The fact that you have a small budget or a large budget really doesn't make much difference in the long run because the lid is going to hurt you or it is going to help you depending on whether or not you support the philosophy or oppose it. If you have got an inflated budget to begin with, Senator Burrows, even if you have a small budget, you are still going to come out all right. If you don't have an inflated budget you are going to get hurt. So it seems to me that it is just a bit hypocritical and I did really enjoy, Senator Burrows, I have to admit obviously when you put the amendment on, I felt that enhanced my bill, but I find it difficult to stand up here and have you try and tell us in all sincerity, and I think you are a sincere individual, that it is okay to do it for \$25,000 but it is not okay to do it for the next classification up. It seems to me that 613 has become the vehicle, we've waited thirty-four days to discuss it, but the issue is here before us and that is whether or not

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