

SENATOR LEWIS: Mr. President, the legislative intention was clear this morning that we intend to appropriate 75 million dollars to school aid. It appears that the rationality would be that we are talking about school aid money now. Personal property tax relief as relief to local subdivisions and most of that goes to schools. It has been a reasonable understanding here that there is a relationship between personal property tax rebate funds and school aid money. The rural areas tend to pick up more money out of personal property tax rebate, the urban areas tend to pick up more money out of the school aid formula. I think that can be verified and justified and I'm having charts prepared to show the total school aid to each school district based on personal property tax rebates, special education, lands and funds. The concept that was developed with the passage of 518 and LB 33 that there needs to be a balance between those two programs. We can strike the 75 million dollars out of 1002 and put together a comprehensive property tax relief both in the school aid fund, county fund and the city fund. Some of us that have been here long enough after analyzing voting records might tend to be suspicious that there would be money in the school aid fund that would subsequently be vetoed and of course the personal property tax fund would be there and increased. Far be it from me because it is not my nature to be suspicious, but in order to make the issue very clear in terms of the desires, the positive commitments, in terms of carrying forward both of these property tax relief funds, I think a good marriage here is not a bad approach and everybody can walk hand in hand with those and if there are those that are playing games with the 75 million dollars they ought to expose that now, or if they are serious about both of the funds this is exactly and precisely the way to do it. I move my amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers, do you wish to speak to the Lamb amendment, I'm sorry, the Lewis amendment?

SENATOR VICKERS: Yes, Mr. President. Mr. President and fellow members, I rise to oppose my good friend Senator Lewis and his amendment. Senator Lewis seems to indicate that some people might be playing games with that 75 million dollars. I assure him that if there is anyone playing games with that 75 million dollars I think it is what we are doing right now. We put that 75 million dollars this morning where it belongs. We put it on state aid to education. Now if the Governor chooses to line item veto any particular bill, I think he can do it on any of them, whether it be 882, 1002 or whatever. I would like to ask Senator Lewis a question, however, about this amendment since none of us have it printed or on our desks, if Senator Lewis would respond. Senator