

April 10, 1980

LB 1002

state because of the formula for equalization and it certainly makes a difference whether it is in your favor or whether it is in some other part of the state that they may gain or lose. I also have a feeling that if we would go to a per pupil basis that we might encourage some of our Class I schools to consolidate because there would certainly be more money if they added more pupils into one school district for all school districts. So rather than take up a lot of time, I am not sure what kind of a strength we have for this sort of a situation but what my amendment says is the new money, anything added this year, whether it be twenty million or sixty million or nothing, of course, if it's nothing, we will have no problem, but even the twenty million that Senator Warner's amendment supplied would be distributed strictly on a per pupil basis. So I move the return of LB 1002 for this specific amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Well, if I may, Mr. Speaker, just one reminder for this body, we are moving rapidly to relieve property tax. In the last two years, we have increased the sales tax take in this state by sixty million dollars. That is thirty million dollars a year in property tax relief the man could have had to pay his taxes if we hadn't taken it away from him in the grocery store. We are certainly doing him a large favor.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Schmit, do you wish to speak on... it is the Kahle motion we are speaking on. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I think we probably had a pretty good education on the state aid formulas and distribution here this year and possibly the best we've had in a long time in the last hour or hour and a half. I'd just like to review very briefly some of the comments that have been made here earlier and why I would just I think have to go along with Senator Kahle's proposal. For many years as we have had it explained to us the state aid to schools formula favored the urban areas, and as John DeCamp told you when the personal property tax exemption was passed, that formula did in fact return more money to the rural areas, and although there was never any kind of a gentlemen's agreement, we recognized the facts of life and allowed it to continue at least for a certain period of time. A year ago I introduced a bill which would have combined all of those various formulas into a single one and establish a new tax, a revenue sharing policy for the State of Nebraska. I think it was a good