

that we have here and consider each in a vacuum, consider not the budget limitations that are placed on the school districts in Omaha and Nebraska City for the moment, but consider the fact that through action taken by this legislative body, people with the enactment of LB 2, the local option tax control act were given the opportunity to impact on budgets on all subdivisions through the initiative process. Now in the school districts in Omaha as well as in Nebraska City the citizens through the initiative process placed this issue on the ballot and by a majority vote, ladies and gentlemen, budget limitations were imposed on both these school budgets. Now I have attempted with amendments offered formerly to provide those citizens that made this decision with the same opportunity to remove that limitation as they had in its imposition. I have not been successful in that but I was encouraged the last time that we considered this measure when sixteen colleagues joined me in attempting to adopt the amendment that would have made for this provision. Now it has been my contention during the debate on this issue that individuals in these school districts if given the opportunity would lift the limitation as presently imposed. Now I personally find a zero percent lid imposed at this time intolerable and I know others do also. I think that this is fairly well confirmed, if you will refer to the article, which I circulated to you today, on a poll that was recently conducted that is indicative that what I have been saying is indeed correct. There was a poll that was taken just within the past two weeks, March 28th through 31st and those individuals that they visited with, by a majority in Omaha, expressing an opinion, indicated that the Omaha School District tax lid should be removed. Now ladies and gentlemen I concur with that philosophy. But the thing that I find highly offensive is the fact that we are, by our action in enacting this bill into law, totally contradicting the decision that was reached in the imposition of these lids. Ladies and gentlemen I can not in good conscience support a proposal which would accomplish this. So I would ask that you join me in returning LB 17 to Select File to attach the specific amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Chair recognizes Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, one thing about it I don't respect Senator Stoney's proposal but I guess I have to respect his tenacity. I guess it is not new, I remember a number of years ago he appeared before the Omaha School Board questioning their budget procedures before there ever was a lid. Yet he works for a large company