

January 27, 1982

LB 572

SENATOR KOCH: You don't want to hit that gavel too hard this morning, do you, Mr. Speaker?

PRESIDENT: Did it wake you up? I am sorry.

SENATOR KOCH: Because I don't even know if I want these people to know what I am trying to do here.

PRESIDENT: Boy, I think you just did it, but go ahead.

SENATOR KOCH: A year ago, very seriously, we passed legislation which was major which converted our taxation from mills to dollar and cents on one hundred dollar values and in that process we forgot to make some changes for school land and funds dollars. It was brought to our attention that in doing that we have seriously impaired some school districts which have large amounts of school lands in their districts with serious loss of funds and so 572 attempts to be equitable and provide those dollars to those systems and the amendment says we will sunset it in two years. There will be two payments made, one in February and one a year from now. In the meantime the Education Committee will look at the whole business of distribution of funds for school lands money and possibly bring back a formula to this body for their consideration a year from this time. I think in all fairness to those schools who have budgeted for it, who expect it, and we deserve to give this our careful scrutiny and allow them the privilege of collecting that money in February so I ask for the adoption of the committee amendments and the advancement of 572 to E & R Initial. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I just want to speak very, very briefly to the issue. This is a matter of fairness in tax equity and there really shouldn't be any debate about it whatsoever. Senator Lamb is certainly right on this issue and I don't think there is any real argument. I just wanted to remind Senator Lamb that Lancaster County will have a couple of tax equity issues coming up later in the session and I hope your memory is as long as the average elephant's, Senator Lamb.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: I would just like to, Mr. President, members, I would just like to echo the remarks made by Senator Koch. I am not sure I am going to echo all the remarks made by Senator Beutler but at least part of them.