

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, I find myself in agreement with much that's been said and I think the debate here in the last 20 minutes or so has been excellent. Senator DeCamp had some very good points as well as Senator Rod Johnson and others. And even my friend Senator Vard Johnson makes sense here from time to time. However, I would point out that he made a grievous error by reading from that newspaper article about state aid to Class I's because the Class I's he quoted there are part of a Class VI so they do pay for the high school from their levy. So the fact that they get additional state aid is really not a question that we're discussing because that's not even affected by the bill. Cherry County has Class VI and also Keya Paha County. I know we'll forgive Vard for making that slight error. But I would like to just kind of summarize what has been said, that there is a big problem here and I'm going to be one that agrees that some Class I's probably should not exist. But this bill is really a meat-ax approach to that problem. It says all those Class I's in that category shall not exist after a certain date. Now I don't think that's the way to go about it and I'll admit you've gotten my attention, you've gotten the attention of these people up here and around the state and I think if this bill is killed, or I'll pledge that if this bill is killed, I will be very active in an interim study. I'll introduce an interim study motion which will study this problem and it is not as simple as we would think. It is not as simple as this very drastic approach we have in this bill and I'll just illustrate. Somewhere in those piles of paper on your desk I circulated letters from Roseland Public Schools, the superintendent there, and also the superintendent from Litchfield. Now these are two K-8 schools, but they're both, if you'll look at the information, both of these schools will be very much adversely affected by LB 662. The Roseland superintendent says that if 662 passes, some of those surrounding schools that are now sending students to his school will not do so. They will merge with Kenesaw or Adams Central and so that's going to leave him \$167,000 short on tuition, nonresident tuition. So his tax will raise from 1.2869 to 1.7347 according to his calculations. Now that is the sort of effect that this bill has that is not apparent at first glance. So you've got a Class II, K-12 school there that