

of the fact that the steel in my back was bent a little, it was not irreparable and I have a responsibility I feel to get up and support you and Senator Landis as easy as it would have been to oppose both of you. But I believe this bill does have merit and I think for the first time in our discussion this morning we called a spade a spade and let's talk about spades and let's do something about spades instead of trying to camouflage it with some other approach. I have felt for a number of years that the very same thing that Senator DeCamp said this morning, and I don't always agree with Senator John as you know, but I think he hit the nail on the head this morning and I believe we're down that road far enough without any further study to address this issue as it should be addressed, and it's not an easy one and it never will be. But we have to face it and let's do it now and I don't think we have to force Class I school districts to do it. Senator DeCamp and I are to have drafted an amendment quite hurriedly that does address that tax structure in the support of schools and a proportionate way that many people have suggested to us in the past, that it should be done. And I would hope that we would not send this back to a committee or a group of committees for further study. We know what the answer is. Let's take advantage of the testimony that we have had heretofore and put it to work and address it in this bill and if, in your judgment, you feel that the substance of the amendment, if it is adopted, warrants further hearing before the public, we have time enough to do that this session, not wait until next year or the year after or the year after that as we've done for many years. I again am sorry to have to oppose Senator Labeledz, but I think down in her heart she would agree that we just as well face it now as to face it later. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vickers, Senator Marsh, Senator Landis. Senator Vickers, you're up.

SENATOR VICKERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, members, I, too, rise to oppose Senator Labeledz's motion and as pointed out by Senator Carsten, it is the easy way out. I hope everybody understands that these are not easy political decisions that we're making. It is not easy to stick your neck out on a limb and I'm reminded years ago when I...back before I even had less sense than I do now, I used to ride bulls in rodeos. You know, if you were afraid of that sucker you'd better not get on him. If we're afraid