

children in education. People whose children who are all grown, no longer have anybody in school, they are still doing it. But I consider that just a good investment in our community because even though I don't have any children the children that are being educated and becoming doctors, nurses and what other fields they go into, plumbers, electricians, I need them. So it is my investment in getting something back for the community and for myself. But there comes a time when you can't afford any more. There comes a time when this Legislature comes back and says we're going to keep our campaign promises of 1984.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Time is up.

SENATOR HIGGINS: I don't think anybody campaigning in 1986 is going to say I'm against property tax relief. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Nelson, then Senator Labedz.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. President, members of the body, I, too, rise to talk in opposition to this bill. I was not in the Legislature last year when it was voted to fund the \$3,000 homestead exemption. I did vote for that the other day. But I feel that...and I felt that a number of people had gone to their county assessor's office and had already signed up for this amendment and so on, or I would not have probably voted for it at the time. We have to realize this money has to come from some place. There are many people, when you get up to this amount of a homestead exemption, maybe they need it and maybe they don't. We have to think of this as the overall picture. The money has to come from somewhere for a funding. I support money for education, and I truly am a heavy property taxpayer, I feel. I just cannot see this exemption right now. Accordingly what we are doing again is shifting the burden to the rural property owner. When you think of some large purchases, 15, 20, 25, 30 thousand dollars, if any of us or any of those can afford to make that now, and you are not talking about peanuts. I think that we, at this time, must sit down and look at the overall picture of what this legislation is going to do, and where we are going to get the money, and where the taxes are going to come from. I think that we cannot just set out one segment. We all want property tax relief. I agree with Senator Vickers. This is just a pittance amount when you come to a rural property owner. It is just nothing. I