

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I think on an emotional issue there is always lots of misinformation, Senator Higgins. That is one reason why I am so glad there are a lot of people here today to hear the straight story.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Senator.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President, members of the body, I'm going to support this amendment, even though it isn't quite written right as far as the Department of Revenue cannot do it. But I want you to know that back in 1967 we talked about equalizing, a third, a third and a third, but it's never been in the statutes. I feel now is a good time to put it in. I also want you to know that this is an issue that I've been working on for quite some time, to try to equalize the tax burden among the people of the State of Nebraska so that all people are paying about the same amount of tax to the support of schools. I feel I have an issue that will do that. It hasn't been heard yet, but it will be shortly, in a couple weeks, and I think we can work on something here that will do the job that...what you are trying to do with reorganization. When you do reorganizations you really upset a lot of people. I feel it is the wrong direction. I really don't feel that that is proper even though, as Senator Vard Johnson said, it isn't going to affect it immediately. I can assure you that it will affect you immediately because you are going to have tremendous administration costs. When this is set up you're going to have one school that is going to operate all the schools and be the boss so to speak of the schools, and you're going to have administration costs that you're not even looking at at the present time. You are also going to find that there are going to be children going to these...going to have to go to high school. You know what they are going to do? They are going to demand busing. So the next step will be busing, just as sure as the writing on the wall that is going to happen because I know it happened in my area. The next thing you are going to have is you are going to have to build some schools because you don't have room for these schools. So then you are going to have a bonding issue and you are going to have another increase of taxes. You are just creating another tax load for these people. I feel it is high time we put in statutes that we