

are emotional issues doesn't mean that one needs to be out of order and I was out of order and so I will take care of that right now. We are struggling to handle an issue that virtually every member in this body knows needs to be done. Senator DeCamp knows it needs to be done. Senator Scofield knows it needs to be done. Virtually every senator here knows that there have been enormous changes that have occurred in education and in the financing of education over the years. Those changes warrant legislative response. So what has happened is that some people in this Legislature have decided that the time had come to try to effect the response and we are simply doing that in as yeoman like a fashion as we can do. You can refer to us as plumbers if you want to, no offense to Senator Lynch. We are simply doing our task as lawmakers which is to eke out a very difficult and hard fought issue that in the end, if adopted and put in place, will have significance for Nebraskans for years to come and I don't mind the fight, I don't mind the disputes, but I would be very distressed by the failure, by the failure. Because if there is a failure it is a failure of will and in truth we need to have the will to be able to do what every other state around us has done over the years to be able to restructure education, to be able to handle the financing of education, to be able to provide property tax relief, to be able to do right by our children for years to come. In no way would I give offense to farm families or to ranch families. I would simply insist that we have an adequate financing system and structure for education in our state and so, too, would every last one of you here. The amendments that you have discussed, and you can discuss again, are amendments that we make in the very best of faith, in the very best of faith to make the reorganization issue a better issue, the merger issue a better issue, the affiliation question a better question and to handle the matter responsibly. And with that I will sit down and let the questions flow.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Haberman, please.

SENATOR HABERMAN: A point of clarification, Mr. President, if I may.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Yes.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Are we, when we vote on this issue, are we voting to accept all of these amendments on this sheet