

because we have to find a way to finance it. Now how is Senator Vard Johnson's amendment going to affect my district? Not very much. It is not going to relieve my property, very little. So I will support Senator Schmit's amendment or what is in it now. I feel that is an answer and it is setting a direction. But, as Senator DeCamp mentioned, it is setting in statute that now the state is going to do something and we need to do it. We are depending upon our rural property too much for the education of our children. I can just see, Senator Nichol, when your district gets into that 65 percent increase that your rural people, what are they going to say up there when they feel the impact of the education of that school in that particular area? It is going to be terrific and it still is the same in my district. I have done this. I have reorganized. We have put our Class I schools into the large Class III schools. It hasn't helped us a bit. It has actually increased our cost tremendously. Has it helped in education? Yes, it has. I can say this and I feel that we are getting a little better education but it has not helped us financially. It has made it considerably worse. And until we change that, I don't think we should ask anybody else to reorganize and that is one of the reasons I have been standing pat against the bill because of that very fact. I just don't feel that we can ask other people to do what I have done in my own particular area, although I did it voluntarily, and many others are doing the same thing. But when we do this and force this upon them...and I can also tell you that many of those Class II schools which they will be merging into, their, if we don't increase the financial aid from the state level, their taxes are going to go up considerable and I am sure that many of us here have heard from people of that type. That isn't just going to happen. It is not going to help us in our tax load in the rural sectors. Sure there are a few out there for tax advantages but there are very few, not as many as you think. Most of these Class I school districts are levying a considerable amount, including their high school tuition. I have heard one senator tell me that he was paying \$13,000 per student from their Class I District. That is a lot of money. That is a lot more than that student cost, I am sure, but they are not objecting, they still want to keep that Class I school district. So these are the reasons that I am standing pat and I have very few Class I districts in my system. It doesn't make me any difference what happens to the bill, really, personally. But I feel that there is