

figure. That would mean that between now and 1987 we would have to increase our sales tax probably at least one cent, and our income tax at least three cents, maybe four cents to get the job done, or four percent to get the job done. I haven't worked that arithmetically yet in my mind, but it is a very handsome increase in tax rates, designed to finance education in our state. Is it the right way to go? I think LB 662 is becoming an omnibus tax equity, tax relief bill. Sometimes those kinds of measures are required to break long-standing log jams, long-standing unwillingness of sides to yield important steps in important grounds. Every now and then, every now and then a congress or a legislature takes a very significant historic step and we are slowly tiptoeing our way into a fairly major step with 662. We all want property tax relief. We all want major consideration given to the way we finance local government. Since Senator DeCamp has given his commitment on the floor of this Legislature that he will support LB 662 without further amendment, since Senator Lamb has assured us that he would not take any steps to make...he would not take any steps to trap LB 662 on Select File if this amendment or any other amendments were adopted, it seems to me that we are safe in arriving at our own conclusion as to what should be done. My personal feeling is that we are taking large steps, that we can take an additional large step, that I will support the DeCamp amendment. I do not think it unwise or improvident. I think it represents true desires of our body to carefully examine tax finance and tax equity. I know there are a number of others in this body that are concerned that have voted against 662. My colleague on the left, Senator Sieck, has voted against it, and Senator Sieck has said, but in the end it won't provide real tax equity, but Senator Sieck has also indicated to me that with a significant amount of state aid that tax equity will be there. I assume that Senator Sieck will be rethinking his position as well as will others, will understand the wisdom of these kinds of decisions and will help us move ahead historically, as we've not done in 30 years, on school finance.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Senator Johnson. Before we go to Senator Hall, Senator Goll, you will be glad to know that 35 of your constituents are here. The fourth grade class at Oakland Craig is seated in the north balcony and we will join you in welcoming them to the Legislature. Now, Senator Hall, followed by Senator Remmers.