

see it eliminated from the piece of legislation. Now I know the situation politically. I know many of you have seen a forging of wills on this in both elements of the piece of legislation, probably have to be there in order to get a majority of votes for this legislation. But I still say that I want to go on record in opposing the state aid part of the bill and the approach that it takes at this time without further discussion and consideration of the issues involved. It is much bigger, much bigger, I think, than we have allowed for consideration at this point during the session. I think there are alternatives to property tax relief that have to be dealt with. The context in which we are dealing with them now is a very limited one. We have forced ourselves into a corner. We have now painted ourselves over into a corner and we have very few options that we can see and that is why I doubt that this motion will be successful and I understand that. But, I, for one, am concerned and I want to express that concern and would ask for your support for this motion to return and strike from the bill the two sections that deal with state aid. Let's deal with that matter separately through Senator Remmers' bill, LB 505, and then deal with the whole property tax relief issue with other legislation as well and consideration.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator DeCamp. Can we have order in the Chamber, please. (Gavel.) And then Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, Senator Wesely had one very accurate thing. He said there are two historic issues in this bill, one is the reorganization issue and the other is the finance issue and I agree, but in terms of significance I would put the finance issue as five or ten times more significant than the other issue the bill started out with. Senator Wesely incorrectly referred to this as a state aid measure. It is not. This is a refinancing of the entire educational system and the laying in place of the cornerstones necessary for that. I have watched this Legislature wrestle with this issue for my 15 years and we have not been able to deal with it. As the song goes, we have never gone this far before, we are right there, we are there on the brink of being able to do it. Don't show profiles in cowardice rather than profiles in courage at this moment. It was ten years ago almost that this Legislature set up a system for refinancing education. They