

in a responsible, reasonable fashion after a diligent and in depth study by the committee and I can assure you that that process is already begun and I would encourage any of you that are interested in it to keep track of it and work with us on it. I think it's not only time, but it is I think essential that we develop those mechanisms for that study, that we develop those mechanisms for that distribution of funds and I know this is going to raise the issue of whether or not we should have had it in 662 to start with and I suggest to you it was a good idea. I voted to put it in there. I talked for it at the time and I think that that is one of the reasons we're going to have the special session. I think it's one of the reasons that the Governor has agreed with us that, yes, funding of education is an important question and, yes, we can talk about it in terms of property tax relief, but I suggest to you it is a bigger question than that. We had ought to talk about it in terms of, what is the correct philosophy for the use of our tax dollars? What is the correct philosophy for the support of services of government? And I have always said, and I will say it again, that the correct use of dollars for a people's service such as education is not to use a property base support. We had ought to use people's taxes, but we'd ought to figure out ways that are fair and equitable in using them. So my purpose for this amendment or this motion, is to bring it to a head, bring it right up front instead of discussing at length the merits of the current formula, whether or not we want it 50 percent or 45 percent or 60 percent, or whatever, going into foundation, equalization and the like. Instead we'd ought to recognize that we have put in place, this Legislature and the Governor, the mechanisms to change it, to allow that change to take place. We've been told we're going to be called back here anyway, come back in here and deal with it after we've examined it, but not spend a lot of time with it at this point and come in without any preconceived notions as to exactly what the percentage is going to be from the property taxes, as to exactly what the dollars are going to be, as to exactly what the sale tax rates may be, come in and be able to do it fresh and from a responsible and reasonable attitude. With that I would urge the adoption of this amendment, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Wesely, please, and then Senator Vard Johnson.