

reasons that we have been able to talk about property tax relief, I think a lot of times this legislative session is because the Revenue Committee has put on the floor of the Legislature different kinds of property tax relief measures and that has forced us to look at that issue. One of the reasons that Bob Kerrey is now committed to looking at property tax relief is because he knows this Legislature is committed to resolving that issue and he can tell from what he reads in the newspaper and from what he hears. I am of the opinion that our property tax relief issues these days are boiling down to state aid to schools. I think that is a good way to go, state aid to schools. I am perfectly agreeable to having it taken up at a special legislative session. But I think you and I ought to begin to sit down and begin to work out that understanding as to what state aid should look like. LB 505 is a decent bill with which to do that. We need to have good meetings on it. We should not simply kill the bill because there is suddenly some nervousness that maybe the financing portion of 662 will come out using this bill as a vehicle. That could happen. It may not happen. But this bill should remain alive.

**SPEAKER NICHOL:** Senator Vickers, then Senator Miller.

**SENATOR VICKERS:** Mr. President and members, I said a little bit ago on my motion to amend this bill that I believed the issue of school finance was one that we were going to be facing this fall, one that we were going to painstakingly deal with all during the interim with the committee that Senator Johnson and I are going to be conducting. It is an issue that I think the time has come. I think we have now got not only a consensus in the Legislature that the way to provide, number one, property tax relief, and the correct way to fund education is from a source other than to rely on the property tax as heavily as we do. And we have also got a Governor who has now said that that is an important part of his agenda. How do we fund education? How do we pay teachers? And is it proper to do it as we have done it in the past? Is it proper to do it under the property taxes that we have used in the past? But the Governor says that we are going to come back this fall and we are going to deal with that issue in a separate session away and separate from the pressures and the other interests that divert our attentions, and I think that is logical. I think that is correct. I think having an interim study based on trying to figure out some logical way to distribute the funds