

CLERK: Yes, sir.

SPEAKER NICHOL: What is it?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Withem and Morehead would move to amend the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, Senator Morehead, are you going to take that? Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. President, members of the body, this is the amendment that I explained so eloquently a few moments ago and then was ruled out of...properly probably, ruled out of order by offering it as an amendment to the committee amendment. Again, it's the information that was distributed to you on your desk this morning. It is...you have an explanation from the Nebraska Association of School Boards explaining why this is a good proposal. I explained a short time ago about what the concept of tax equity is and why it is a better method than per pupil expenditure. Again, the per pupil expenditure, I guess after hearing some people talk about it, impresses me as being a manner in which a school district will sell education, that they have a product that they are selling to a buyer. We don't operate under that philosophy in this country. It's not a user's fee for each individual that uses a school district, it isn't in my case anyway. I don't have young people that go to the Papillion-LaVista Schools yet, but I do pay taxes, I do pay taxes to support them. What we're saying with the tax equity argument is that the school district that is sending, the residents of the school district sending students to a high school...

SPEAKER NICHOL: The call is raised.

SENATOR WITHEM: ...should be taxed on an equal basis with those who are in the receiving district. Again, that if this does...if we do not keep the current system of tax equity and if we adopt the bill in its current form, it will be a massive shift of 10 to \$17 million of property tax money from...to, excuse me, tax break to Class I school districts. That tax break will be made up by those in the receiving district and it will also be made up by those districts who currently share the rather small pot of equalization money that we have, around \$33 million I