

ourselves and there is nothing we can do about it and be very pessimistic. The other way is to say, you know, there is terrible times now, but we're going to build on these times and we're going to come out of it even better. In other words, if any of us had been on the Titanic, instead of searching for a lifeboat, if we'd have been figuring out the exact position of where the ship was going down, we'd be millionaires now. I guess that what I am trying to say to you is that with this one little segment, with this one little segment we can save a little bit of optimism. We can say we're still going to have a mechanism so that we're going to make sure we have a quality educational system in this state when we work our way out of this and by 1989, God knows, let's hope that we're out of it and that we're booming and we've got a growing economy because we have a quality educational system. So the amendment would establish a minimal amount of funds to continue that one segment. Let me tell you what it is doing. Right now there are four schools in this state, Polk, Marquette, Wayne and Ord who have agreed to serve as guinea pigs and those communities, each one of those communities, and it is an entire community effort, and you notice there are two small schools and two fairly large schools, that have agreed as a community to measure themselves, to look within themselves, to assess first of all, what is important to them as a community for their education. And then to agree to establish a series of surveys, a series of assessments and a series of workshops, combining the schools, combining the four schools to look at what each other is doing and the two schools based on sizes and within their own communities and it is going to take a few funds to do that. We've already got the procedure started. These schools have already agreed to do it and, quite frankly, if we say now, no, we're going to change our mind, we're not going to do it, I think it is going to be much more difficult to go back to any school next year and say, would you agree to be a guinea pig again, when they will remember, well, now wait a minute. Some of them did agree to be guinea pigs last year, we started a process, we did a lot of work for you and then all of a sudden you said, no, we're not going to do it. I think it is extremely important, if this Legislature really meant what it said two years ago when it said, we expect a quality system, I think it's extremely important to this Legislature then to put a minimal amount of dollars behind it. Now, I know I'm increasing the budget by \$30,000 and we've got, in total, a billion, point what, seven? Total budget. \$30,000