

SENATOR REMMERS: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR DECAMP: But I am saying everybody keeps saying you are not going to pass anything onto property taxes. I am saying try to do something about it. I have yet to see anybody try to do anything about not just passing it onto property and the best evidence of that is I suspect what is going to happen to this amendment. And it is further proof that all we are doing is simply passing it onto property and I am trying to tell you you are cruising for a bruising from the property taxpayer one of these days. Don't misjudge that vote on LB 662. Those people paying property taxes in those homes with declining values and tough times are right at the verge of revolt, and if you do nothing more here this session than shift additional things to them, you are just hastening, hastening that day, which may be good, I don't know. But quit pretending that you are actually cutting spending. You are shifting it with this particular proposal. And when I put before you the chance to actually cut it by transferring it on down the line, it immediately draws reaction, as I felt it would.

SENATOR CARSTEN PRESIDING

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. This is one time I agree with Senator DeCamp, up to a point. In his resolution he says each school district shall itemize program reductions. This...was that for me? Whoever, thank you. What I want to say is this, this is what our school district in Omaha does all the time. The minute you start talking about cutting the budget, they start saying, well, there goes reading, there goes writing, there goes arithmetic, there goes spelling. They never say, there go five paper pushers. I don't know how many buildings the Omaha School District owns in Omaha. Would you believe 72nd Street in Omaha is one of the highest priced prime locations in Omaha for any commercial operation? But our school district purchased two automobile dealerships so they could have a central location in which to park their school buses. Now, that is prime property and they want the school buses parked inside. So where I disagree with Senator DeCamp is that perhaps this resolution should be amended not only for programs but the first priority should be administrative cuts and cuts of those things that are not directly related to instruction. We, in Omaha, are faced with a school board that every year is given a