

SPEAKER NICHOL: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: The next amendment I have, Mr. President, is by Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Withdraw the amendment, please.

SPEAKER NICHOL: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: The next amendment I have, Mr. President, is by Senator Vard Johnson. (Johnson amendment appears on page 65 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I wish I could say withdraw, but I can't say withdraw. This is an amendment of some consequence. It is an amendment that does not alter the budget in any way, shape or form, but it does do one thing with aid to local schools. It takes all of the cut, the \$1.9 million as aid to local schools out of foundation aid and leaves no part of the cut from equalization aid. That is what it does. Very simple. Why should we take money exclusively from foundation and not from equalization? Simple reason, equalization money has been money that we've put into the formula for years and years and years for the sole purpose of providing assistance to those schools that have low property valuations, in other words, property poor schools. When we have reduced state aid across the board, when we reduced state aid across the board we affect the poor districts as much as the well-to-do districts. If you take the money out of foundation the impact is greater with the well-to-do districts than with the poor districts. So all I am simply saying with this amendment is to take the money from foundation as opposed to taking it 70 percent from foundation and 30 percent from equalization which is the current, which is the current change. It would all come from foundation and none of it would come from equalization in terms of the cutback.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Lamb, then Senator Withem.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members, I rise to oppose the motion by my friend Senator Vard. Now the issue here is very simple and Vard explained it very well except he came up with the wrong conclusion. Now we have over the past few sessions, and I'm trying to get the numbers but I don't have them here, we