

correct, did come both out of foundation aid. Another point I'd like to make, historically when the state aid to education fund was established many years ago with a relatively small paltry sum in it, I think it was about \$25 million. The original intent at that point was to distribute half of that state aid money in equalization, half of it in foundation, a fifty-fifty split. Since that time as we've increased the money we give out in state aid to education that fifty-fifty split has changed to the point where 75 percent of the funds we send out in state aid to education go out in foundation aid. Now only 25 percent of the funds go out...state aid to education go out in equalization. So if you go back to the original intent of the state aid fund, and that was to split the money between foundation and equalization, these cuts we're taking on foundation move us toward restoring the original intent of the equalization fund. I think this is a fair amendment. I would urge you to support it.

SENATOR CARSTEN PRESIDING

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Scofield, please.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Mr. Speaker, members, I rise to oppose the amendment, not because I don't think it is probably wise from time to time to look at how we distribute state aid, but we're at a very late date in the session, hopefully, and we are at a late hour and the state school aid formula, state aid formula is extremely complex. I would challenge the majority of any of us to stand up here and completely outline how that formula works and who gains and who loses and to analyze the assumptions that that formula has been based on. I think there are a good many things happening right now in a changing state with changing ag land valuations, changing property valuations and so forth that would merit a careful examination so that we know truly who is getting and who is losing on this and are we really putting money where it enhances quality and at this hour this just is not the time to start that debate. I think we're in great danger of making a hasty decision here, we're tired. We are, frankly, just not, I don't think, prepared to examine this in any kind of deliberative fashion and I would urge you to go away and take a look at this formula and think it through and we'll take this on next session, but today I think is just an absolutely inappropriate time, I'm sorry, Senator Johnson, to even bring this up. You are asking for an absolutely ridiculous decision done in a hasty manner with none of us sitting down and really looking at what is the right thing to do for education