

been trying to do some things that should not be attempted in a short session of this kind and I hope we defeat that motion.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator Lamb, please, then Senator Vickers.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members, I just do have some numbers here. Since 1984-85 the overall decrease in state aid has been something over 6 percent, but the foundation aid decrease has been about 16 percent. So you can see that foundation has taken more than its fair share in these last few years of budget cuts.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator Vickers, and then Senator Haberman.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, first of all I want to tell you all that the election results were wrong. I won and I didn't lose. I'm going to be real happy to get out of this nut house. I want to also tell you that when the times gets tough and the budget has to be reduced, the definition between liberal and conservative becomes real clear. For God's sake, cut the budget, but for God's sake, don't cut it for me. Now Senator Lamb just got through telling you that we've cut from foundation the last few times we've cut state aid, but I want to remind you of something. I'm the one that changed that formula that sent more dollars to foundation about six, seven years ago when we increased state aid \$40 million, and do you know why I did it? I had to change the formula in order to get the increase because people wouldn't have voted for it otherwise because we still have that same attitude about, for goodness sakes, don't put the money where it may not benefit me. What is the purpose of state aid to education, ladies and gentlemen? What is the purpose of equalization, ladies and gentlemen? The purpose is to try to provide a system where, no matter how low the resources of the ability to do it, there has to be a minimum amount of dollars there to do it. That is the reason you have an equalization formula to start with. Senator Remmers says, don't do it because you can't hurt those poor farmers. Let me tell you one district that doesn't get any equalization dollars that will be hurt if you do this, Omaha Westside. To my knowledge, there is not one damn farmer in Omaha Westside. There are no equalization dollars that go to Omaha Westside, so if you adopt this motion, you won't be...I mean, if you don't adopt this motion, you will be hurting Omaha Westside...or if you do adopt the motion, excuse me, you will be hurting Omaha