

side of the formula. Now, what is a philosophical issue? The function of equalization is to provide state assistance to school districts that are poor, that is school districts that don't have the means to finance themselves. That is the function of equalization. Now, I have heard from Senator Lamb and Senator Remmers, who have said, well, the measure of poverty is assessed valuation per pupil, it's property. But property sometimes can't pay taxes, only income can pay taxes. Well, the truth of the matter is that schools are financed out of property. That is how they are financed. They are not financed out of income. They are financed out of property. Property has always been our yardstick, always been our yardstick for wealth, or the lack thereof, in terms of school finance. Equalization deals with poor property school districts. Foundation spreads across the board. If you want to provide help to poor property school districts, you make certain that when your state aid reduction occurs, it doesn't hit the poor property school districts. You keep the reduction off of equalization and you keep your reduction onto foundation. As Senator Vickers pointed out, when he increased the foundation allowance five years ago by 40 million bucks, he changed the formula, in fact, to make it even better for the property wealthy districts, to make it even better. It is responsible for this reduction in assistance to touch foundation only and not equalization. It is a philosophic issue, an important philosophic issue. I urge your support for the amendment.

SENATOR CARSTEN: The question is, shall the Vard Johnson amendment be adopted? All those in favor vote aye, those opposed vote no. Have you all voted?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: (Microphone not activated) ...call of the house because there are quite a few that I think are off the floor.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Call of the house has been requested. All those in favor of going under call will vote aye, those opposed will vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 21 ayes, 0 nays to go under call, Mr. President.

SENATOR CARSTEN: The house is under call. All senators return to your seats and press your green button. All unauthorized personnel leave the floor. Those senators that are not in the Chamber and within the hearing of my voice, please return and register your presence, please. We are under call. Senator