

not trying to make wealthy school districts wealthier. We're trying to help all school districts to have somewhat of an equal financial base. If you adopt Senator Rasmussen's amendment, then you're going to put a total emphasis virtually on foundation. You might as well just do it very simply and easily and put it all into foundation and have a simple multiplication of kids times dollars; the rich stay rich, the poor get poorer. The efforts are still far greater. I cannot accept Senator Rasmussen's amendment and I hope that you will not either. The procedure we have in state aid has been there for quite some time. We have merely said incentive will get the first priority; foundation and equalization will receive the same priority after that money has been appropriated and has been expended. That means, approximately \$5 million in incentive first, \$35 million in foundation and \$35 million in equalization. We talk about being fair and equitable in here. I would hope that you would remember this amendment takes away all terms of equity. There is nothing fair about it at all.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislative body. Aren't we all forgetting one very important fact? That the quality of educational opportunities do rest to a large extent on the preparation of those teachers who are teaching our children. Someone said, it goes right into the pockets of the teachers. No, this goes to the school district, as an incentive to hire qualified instructors for our collective children. We need the very best teachers we can possibly obtain to teach the generation of children now who will be the leaders of Nebraska tomorrow. That tomorrow will come more quickly than you believe. Incentive pay is an incentive to quality educational opportunities. I oppose the amendment which is offered. I hope the thinking members of this body will do likewise.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the Revenue Committee gives notice of an executive session at 2:45 p.m. on this date in the West Lounge. Signed Senator Keyes, of the 3rd district.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: The Chair would also like to take the privilege of introducing in the South Balcony some 60 guests, first through sixth grade from Platteview Grade School, Route 2, Fremont. That's in Senator Schmit's district with the teacher. Would those people please stand and be recognized? Welcome to your Legislature. Chair recognizes Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President and members of this body. I rise to support Senator Rasmussen in his amendment to put the thing back the way it was. I think out in our part of the country this is one of the biggest objections we hear on LB 33 and all school aid, is that there just is not enough on foundation. I believe that this is the first place it should be. You're talking about helping children and having better schools. I really don't know what difference it makes, whether you give it to the school districts in a per-pupil basis or whether you stipulate that they have to hire a certain kind of a teacher to qualify. I don't believe we're going to get very far getting this bill passed if we don't get more of these funds in equalization. At least not out in my part of the state.