

more. The truth of the matter is we got to get control of spending. The truth of the matter, the facts are today, as of two years ago, and I mentioned this on the floor the other day, we have 8,000 less elementary students in our elementary system in the State of Nebraska, 8,000 less students, but yet we have an increase in teachers. Now this isn't an economic way. This merely is perpetuating spending in the system. I'm not against my local board. My local board does a tremendous job. I am also responsible to 33,000 people, just as everybody in this body is responsible to 33,000 people. For me to put \$20 million with no strings out into these local districts, and don't kid yourself there will be strings, this isn't going to enhance or increase local control. This is going to take local control away. The local school boards are running their schools, and they're doing a good job of it, and they're doing it with the money in those districts. When the money starts coming from Lincoln, or whether it comes from Washington, then we're going to buy the argument that we're increasing local control? LB 33, by putting \$20 million additional and eventually possibly \$100 million or over \$100 million into local schools isn't going to enhance local control? No way. I don't believe it and you don't believe it. No one else believes it. So I think we look at LB 33 for what it is. It is time to stop the bill right now.

PRESIDENT: Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. This is a bad bill, at least for the 32nd district. I have a list of ten schools, from my district, with the highest mill levy. They average up to a little over 49 mills, the ten schools. They have a reduction of 2.3 mills. We talk about reduction of expenses. I average ten school districts that receive a sizeable amount which are Howells, Ponca, Bellevue, Neligh, Rushville, Ainsworth, Wisner, Minatare, O'Neill and Stanton. The average mill levy of these schools is 48 mills. They receive a 14.2 mill reduction. So you can see that it does nothing for the 32nd district. So I must oppose the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Bereuter.

SENATOR BEREUTER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I thought that perhaps I'd not participate in the debate on LB 33 since the two sides seem to be well drawn and they have spokesmen. However, I did want to call the attention of the body to the fact that I have received some material upon my request from the State Department of Education, computer runs on the impact of the existing formula as applied to \$55 million, the new formula as applied to \$55 million, the old formula and the new formula as applied to \$75 million. Some of this information has not been made available to you before. I volunteer this information to you. I distilled it into a form on charts which would provide you that information for all of the major school districts of the state, right down to Class A, B, C size as far as athletic competition is concerned. This information is available to you in any case. However, I did want to distill for you a few of the trends that I perceived in this material. I started out