

April 10, 1980

LB 964

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: A question of Senator Reutzel.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Reutzel, do you yield?

SENATOR REUTZEL: Sure.

SENATOR MURPHY: Your closing statement, Senator, related to some level of funding in order to avoid, I think you used "unfair" and another "excessive"...?

SENATOR REUTZEL: Unfair and excessive burden.

SENATOR MURPHY: Are those two terms defined in the bill?

SENATOR REUTZEL: They are not. Senator, is Senator Koch in the room? That was his language. Perhaps Senator Koch...

SENATOR MURPHY: You know, I had a hunch that is what it was.

SENATOR REUTZEL: Because Senator Koch had this language in another bill which we did not take up and this was his language. Maybe Senator Koch could define that.

SENATOR MURPHY: If I may, Senator, as chairman of the Constitutional Committee, I have a very strong reluctance to put vagaries in the Constitution and I would ask that one of two things be done. Either we add a definition section so that we know what we are putting before the people so that they may understand or that those words be taken out because I think it is unfortunate to place before the people something that has no definitions, no parameters, no limits, nothing.

SENATOR REUTZEL: Senator Murphy, that terminology was in the original bill of Senator DeCamp's, so maybe Senator DeCamp can define that.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Just a couple remarks, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, about the committee amendments. The committee amendments very clearly reflect language which is in the Constitution of several other states, New Jersey being one, Colorado being another. With respect to school finance, at this time when the State of Nebraska in carrying out its constitutional obligation to provide for the children of our state, free instruction in the common schools when those children are between the age of five and twenty-one, when the great State of Nebraska places the entire burden