

we just cut 1.7 million, 1.7 million out of the state aid program. Eventually, it is going to get down there and it is going to be...you are going to raise the property tax as slight dollars, according to Senator Ashford. I don't know where he grew up at, but 1.7 million I always thought was a pretty good sum of money. And they talk, they give you the impression that a ward of the court is the same as a regular student. Come on, folks, we know better than that. Do you ever turn on the TV set or the radio and talk about the disintegration of our society? You see it everyday. If you look in the paper today, big article on a group home over in Council Bluffs, Iowa. I can't remember, it is 4 or 6 young people we have over there, probably around 6, \$700 a month, \$7,200. Do you know what is going to happen? We fail to fund wards of the court. Do you think those school districts, do you think those school districts are going to make any kind of an effort to spend extra money. Go back to Senator Ashford's remark about, you know, they are regular students. Thirty-five to 40 percent of those students, folks are special education students, and the vast majority of the others are students at risk. There is one thing that we need for those people is some stability in their life, and that is going to...that is going to go downhill if you don't fund this program. Go out and ask the foster care review person behind the glass. She will tell you. They are really concerned what is going to happen. Do you know what could happen? The first thing that could happen, they could go to group homes. Group homes are four or five times expensive. Then if they don't work out in group homes, they go out of state. And, Senator Rasmussen and I know what it costs to go out of the state because we have been working on that for a full year, anywhere from 20,000 to over 100,000 dollars a year for one student. I mentioned about, I call it the theory of least effort. If schools are going to get these people, do you think they are going to extend themselves if they are not getting some money to take care of their needs? I want it mentioned, I had a handout on the impact of 1059. When the people voted on that, the Legislature said we would spend...we would spend 45 percent, the state would pay 45 percent of public school education. Look at the figures, this year, '92-93,...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR ROBINSON: ...it is down to 40 percent; projected out to '94-95, it is going to be under 40 percent, 1.7 million more, it is going to be that much lower. A couple of comments about what