

mine. So I certainly have some legitimate concerns. I don't want to take up a lot of time, but if you will refer... if I can refer you to the handout that I passed out just a few minutes ago, you can see what the percentage of increase has been in Elkhorn...excuse me, in Millard, and I guess the point Senator Koch made is one of the problems I originally had with the bill, and that is the fact that there is no lid bill essentially that's designed that doesn't deal with exceptions, that can't take care of those types of exceptions. This particular amendment will at least begin to deal with some of those. If you look at the per pupil cost, and I think that's probably a key indicator, you'll see that they're only spending about \$1400 per student in Millard, and I would suggest that you take a look at what is in your own school districts, which may be \$1800...\$2000, \$2400 or \$2500, \$3000, \$3500, \$3600 per pupil. In many cases two or even close to three times what they're spending in Millard, so it isn't a question that they're spendthrifts in Millard, that they are just having all sorts of money lying around and not knowing what to do with it. It's a question of where they made a conscientious, honest effort, but because of the increases they could simply not cope with them. Now let me give one further reason why...just taking the highest year, or one year, will not solve the problem. In Elkhorn they had an outstanding increase in enrollment two years ago at 27 percent. All of the problems that come with that will not come about in the next year. They may not need the 27 percent increase in enrollment for the next year, but two years down the road, as new demands occur... new buildings, other new facilities, new equipment. They may not have...be able to implement all of the stuff during that first year. A three year average rather than just taking the last year's average would be a far more fair method. It would be far more reasonable to allow those districts which have had a substantial increase over a period of years to take care of those problems, and again I think the bottom line is what type of a job is that particular locale doing, and how are they utilizing their funds. You can see again less than \$1400 per pupil, and I would suggest to each of you in this body think or check how many of your school districts have that per pupil ratio...dollars to pupil. I'd suggest very few. Most of you have sufficiently higher. Let's not penalize those areas who through no fault of their own are rapidly growing and who need to have this type of amendment. Senator Koch, I commend you for introducing it on behalf of my district and others, and I urge the body to please, please accept this amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Carsten.