

bill this session and I believe that they had built into that budget that amount that was supposed to be on a food rebate, tax on food rebate. So since it is built into the budget, certainly this can't affect the overlevy which was the major subject of discussion a moment ago. 7% increase in state aid, that is what this amounts to and I would say to you and to Senator Duis that this will go out in foundation. The 757, the bill we passed last session to handle the slop-over from the present state aid bill is where this would be administered and it goes out on a foundation basis. In other words, it is \$4 million into the foundation section and that is how it would be distributed to schools based upon their last year's ADM. I do not think this is unreasonable. At least this body shows some good faith. Many people campaign for relief in property tax. Many people campaign for state aid and here is your chance to at least show that you will back up what you have promised and that also includes our new executive. The new executive has also said he believes there has to be additional state aid to the public schools. This is not unreasonable. At least it is a step and I think would give hope to others that eventually this body will treat state aid in a serious vein but at least this is a step forward. It may not be the biggest step but it is a partial step and I would accept this \$4 million. I think the body would feel much better about it. I move that we support Senator Hefner's amendment to Senator Keyes' amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Lewis, do you wish to speak?

SENATOR LEWIS: Yes. I promised myself this was going to be the first session in seven years I didn't talk on state aid but I am going to any way. I oppose the Hefner amendment. I oppose the Keyes amendment. If we are going to put money into state aid, let's not be messing around with \$4 million or \$10 million. I vote for \$35 million right now and I have done that many times before. There is two things I want to clear up and I want to ask the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee a question first and I want this as a matter of public record. Senator Warner, would you yield to a question? Senator Warner, to your knowledge has there been any kind of an agreement to keep the budget dollars down so that we can have a tax cut this year or next?

SENATOR WARNER: I certainly am not aware of any such agreement and the figures that I look at I don't see how that is conceivably possible.

SENATOR LEWIS: I asked the Governor that same question about