

May 8, 1979

LB 585

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and fellow colleagues, I have a little saying that my father taught me many years ago and I hope that it doesn't offend anybody. He said, a bird in the hand was worth two birds in the bush, and if I didn't know any better I'd say this amendment was a DeCamp amendment, because I'll tell you what they're trying to do. They're trying to get this so high that the Governor will veto it and I feel we ought to take our \$10,000,000 and keep it rather than trying to raise it to 35, so I'll have to oppose the Dworak amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dworak, you may close on your amendment, on the motion to return I should say.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, again this is a serious amendment. You know, we do have a state aid formula, and that state aid formula distributes money between foundation and equalization, and only about one hundred and ninety school districts right now across this state...one hundred and ninety school districts out of eleven hundred...one hundred and ninety school districts out of eleven hundred, are receiving any equalization whatsoever. This is a way to get through foundation, through a per capita count money into the rest of those school districts. Now if 285 does what I think it's supposed to do, and what it's been purported to do, this \$35,000,000 is going to be direct property tax relief. We have laid the ground work with LB 285, and contrary to some of the other opinions expressed here this afternoon I've always supported state aid, but I will not support a state aid formula where the majority of the money goes to a hundred and ninety schools out of eleven hundred. I cannot support that kind of a formula. This formula that Senator Vickers and Senator DeCamp have brought before us is a good formula and it treats all kids across the state of Nebraska equally. A youngster in one part of the state is worth no more or no less than a youngster in another part of the state, and to me that's equality and that's justice. Another beautiful thing about this \$35,000,000 is it disregards property valuation as Senator DeCamp lamented earlier in reference to the Supreme Court decision that came out against his court case...or on his court case. So this is a good formula, and as I've said before, and I guess anybody's crystal ball is as good as anybody else's, but I do believe the Revenue Committee...or I mean the Appropriations Committee and Senator Warner and the fiscal advisers we're talking to has a good fix, as good a fix as