

March 18, 1980

LB 486

SENATOR MURPHY: Could we help the county superintendent if we said that these funds will be taken into consideration when she advises the county board what the levy should be?

SENATOR KOCH: I have no problems with that if you want to be more explicit.

SENATOR MURPHY: Fine, because I, at the time, I, reading the bill I was not a bit sure how it would be distributed. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Warner, do you wish to speak to the Dworak amendment? Senator Vickers, do you wish to speak to the Dworak amendment?

SENATOR VICKERS: Yes, I do, Mr. President. Mr. Speaker and fellow members, I rise in opposition to the Dworak amendment. If Senator Dworak is concerned about property tax relief as he would indicate that he was, I can't imagine him trying to strike Section...or the language in that section of the bill because that section changes the formula so that we can increase the amount of money to state aid as Senator Warner indicated. If we don't put a sizeable increase property taxes are going to go up. It is just that simple. If we put the increase in with the formula that Senator Koch has in 486, I had a bill last year that would have put all of the state aid monies out on a foundation basis and I used the formula very similar to the one that Senator Koch has in 436. 486 as far as I am concerned, the section that Senator Dworak is amending is the best part of 486. It is the main part of 486 but once again we are going to get into that auction market out here in the floor of the Legislatue. We are all going to look and see what it is doing to my district as opposed to somebody else's district. We are not willing to put more dollars in it until we find out whether we are going to win or lose and there is no way that we can change the formula without somebody winning and somebody losing unless we put more dollars in it. It is impossible. If we are really concerned about property tax relief, I submit to you that we need to look at state aid to education. I submit to you that we all swore to uphold the Constitution of the State of Nebraska and the Constitution of the State of Nebraska says that we are responsible for educating the children of this state. It doesn't say that we are responsible for protecting each of our districts in regard to the amount of dollars that we get compared to somebody else's district. The section that Senator Dworak is attempting to amend is setting up a formula whereby we can put dollars on a per pupil basis across the State