

rural friends have always said, and long said, that foundation aid is the preferable way to provide state aid to education. Because they get more money. You know, I have never agreed with that but I have just seen the light. At least this amendment, this amendment which would take the 70 million dollars and put it into a different fund to be distributed differently will at least be a little more fair than what our present formula is. Even though my rural counterparts have long said that this in fact is not, this is the preferable way to provide state aid to education, at least this would provide us with additional revenues, "us" meaning those urban areas like Omaha, like Lincoln, North Platte and other places. This would add those dollars to a head count fund to state aid, do away with the 70 million ceiling on personal property tax exemption, or the 70 million dollars that we presently fund through the personal property tax pay back formula, which presently tends to go to rural areas. This would still be aimed at rural areas but I think it would be a little more favorable. As you well know now Douglas County puts in 31% of the sales and income tax dollars. They have 26% of the state's population. They get 18% of these funds. You know, they will get a bigger share of this and I'm not sure how big a share probably around 26% of the state aid dollars when it goes into that fund. I can not represent the 13th Legislative District without trying to change this fund to make it more fair and more equitable than our present formula is. I can't sit here and watch honest attempts to compromise fail when certain people have problems with principle, if corporate income tax were pulled out, and therefore they can't vote for it, or the corporate income tax is in and so they can't vote for it, when in fact the real issue is where and how these dollars ought to be distributed. The real issue is that they are distributed totally unfairly today. The people in the 13th Legislative District which never benefitted one little bit from the personal property tax exemptions, the wage earners who in fact contribute those sales and income tax dollars to the general fund to pay for property tax relief that they don't get deserve this kind of effort from me. That is why I provide this amendment, that is why I provided other amendments which I think would at least try honestly and a little more equitably to distribute these dollars. Now this issue a lot of people think is overwith. But it is not. Like the sales tax on food it keeps coming back year in and year out and will continue to come back. I only remind those people who are unwilling to compromise that in 1983 we will have a new legislature and then there is no need to compromise any more. We do things the fair way. The