

April 10, 1980

LB 1002

the kitty?

SENATOR KOCH: That is what we are attempting to do, Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: And how much are we attempting to put in it?

SENATOR KOCH: Right now Senator Warner's amendment asks for \$20 million solid dollars which would then take the amount of money distributed to schools to \$75 million as opposed to \$55 million now.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Very good. Thank you. I will support that.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Probably for the final time I would raise the objection that there is some kind of beneficial good that derives if we tax people at state level and return it as opposed to taxing them at local level where they are aware, where it can be seen, and where they can evaluate the genuine worth of what that money is buying. Senator Vickers makes the point that it is our obligation to educate children and I would say it is an obligation of the state and its subdivision to educate those children and that the Constitution specifically provides that the state shall enact no laws dealing with the operation of schools. The State Department of Education in order to alleviate the pressure, to maintain the high teacher-pupil ratio, the high administrator-teacher ratio would like very much to have the state fund education totally with state taxes, because until we take that money away from those people, this state has no aid and all in the world we are doing is burying, hiding from the cost of those who we purportedly serve what we are charging them for that service. I, for one, would like to see state aid as such discontinued. I think people have a right to know. My fine young friends who are all for revealing everything to everybody should reveal to the people by direct taxation what we are charging them for that agency of government that consumes better than half of the cost of government in this state. Instead we come in and at the last minute with a bunch of maneuvering and a bunch of printouts that never quite got here, a bunch of formulas that no one can understand, are going to purport to run this money through the state and I would remind you again one last time what rule 14 as promulgated by the Department of Education says. You will comply with everything this