

driver education is very important. I believe safety on the highway is very important and I think it is our responsibility as representatives of the people to address that situation. I urge your support of LB 207.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I am a little bit confused. Senator Koch, would this change the amount of money that a school board would use for driver education as a result of it being furnished by state aid? It should not increase the limit they can spend under the lid, would it? Or would it? I asked Senator Koch a question.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch, will you respond?

SENATOR KOCH: Senator Nichol, I appreciate your question. We provide the schools with additional, and the figure being passed around here is not quite accurate. We are estimating under present conditions it is a little over \$600,000, and Senator Nichol's question is this, will it allow the school board to increase their budget? No, it wouldn't. What happens is that new money coming to the school board, they are still under seven percent, and what would happen would be a reduction in property tax they are presently having to draw to pay for the courses because they take it out of their mill levies against property taxes. This money, you see, is not going to open up a big spending spree. What it is going to help schools do is keep the program rather than cutting it out when they have to under severe limitations and it will help them justify and support it.

SENATOR NICHOL: That was the point I wanted to bring out that it would relieve the personal property tax somewhat and would put more of the burden onto sales and income tax. Thank you, Senator Koch.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I would like to spend just a few minutes discussing the driver's education situation in the Omaha School District because obviously that situation is somewhat different from the way it is in the rest of the State of Nebraska. We have had a driver's education program for a number of years. However, when the Omaha School District faced a zero percent growth limitation on the imposition of property taxes which was put on by the voters a year and a half ago, in August of 1979, the Omaha school board had to decide how to handle various educational functions and one of the things it did is it said that from this point forward driver's education is not