

April 2, 1981

LB 17

SPEAKER MARVEL: Chair recognizes Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I guess you made your decision on that last vote. What you have done is to retain special elections so that the first year the governing board can automatically put on for a special election. My amendment simply covered the rest of the tax option limitation and since you have made your choice on including special elections I respectfully withdraw my amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Hearing no objections so ordered.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have a motion from Senator Stoney to return LB 17 to Select File for a specific amendment.

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I'm going to attempt, with this amendment, and having you help me returning this to Select File for this consideration of this amendment to restore a sense of fairness and equity to this particular proposal. Now what this amendment would do and it is being duplicated at the present time and will be on your desk in just a moment, is that it would have an effect on the two budget limitations that are presently in place, that being the Omaha Public School system and the Nebraska City School system. What the amendment would provide for is that this issue could again be placed before the voters in these districts in two fashions. The same as....the same fashion as was used in imposing the budget limitations, that being initiative petition and once again to create equity no more than 5% would have to sign that petition to have it placed on the ballot for a vote of the people. The second alternative that they would have would be for the elected school board members, themselves, by a majority vote to place this issue before the people. Once again ladies and gentlemen I want to say publicly that I understand that a zero percentage lid in the 1980's is totally intolerable and it is unacceptable. But what I am attempting to do with this amendment is to maintain the integrity of this body who gave individuals through the initiative process the opportunity to place this issue on the ballot and to impose a lid if they so chose. Now what I am attempting to do is to create a standard for those who would like to remove the lid which equates with that of the imposition. Ladies and gentlemen I think that is only fair, that is only equitable, the people that I have heard from, the input that I have received, the feedback that I have received is not that people wish to