

grants for this and I know schools systems that have received the grants and have applied the money for that purpose. I don't know where you got this piece of whatever it is but I would just as soon see the money go into the fund like it always has and go to the schools based upon the present formula. There will be a lot of schools out here that won't apply for a grant, many of them already weatherized and they do that because they are interested in saving energy. In fact, if you want to look at the record the public schools in this nation are on record showing that they have probably done more in this area than most any other state agency or institutions and I can't believe we are going to say to the State Department of Education, they are going to approve grant applications and nobody will get more than a \$100,000 when they do it. So if you want to provide to the State Energy Office some money to support it since they are losing some federal dollars, go ahead. That is fine and a \$100,000 to Nebraska University I guess, Solar Office, for whatever purposes, go ahead. But why do you want to earmark the rest of that money that is going to be raised because of the increase in severance tax for a very specific purpose? It should not be for that purpose. Let the administrators and the school boards determine to what extent they have to take on this kind of a project. If federal dollars are not available then so be it, but here one more time we are going to earmark almost in perpetuity that the only way you are going to get any of this additional dollars are going to be derived from a severance tax increase is you have got to come in with a grant and then if in thirty days you are not notified, it is approved and I submit to you that in a matter of a few years in many cases they already have reached the weatherization some systems that I am familiar with, have spent considerable dollars to weatherize and to reenergize their systems and I do not support this amendment. I will not support it. I will support the part where certain money goes to the Energy Office because they have lost their source of funds and to the Solar Office. I think the rest of it should not be earmarked though for public schools. It ought to be placed there, go back to the schools the way it does now and let them make the determinations locally how they are going to use that dollar outside the lid.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. Speaker, a question of Senator DeCamp. In your explanation on these amendments you state that a \$100,000 would be allocated to the Nebraska Solar Office and you say they will cease to exist after September 30, 1981. Shouldn't that be clarified that if this money is