

The matter of which committee to refer to it seems to me is one of, first of all, the Education Committee is the one that historically has dealt with the distribution of funds set aside for education. This body determines how much money they want to put back for state aid to education, education for various special interests, areas in education such as special education and so forth but the Education Committee is the body that determines how we distribute those funds. Now realize that the state school lands are set aside by Constitution to provide dollars for education. That is the only purpose for those lands. It is the only purpose that those dollars can go to so, therefore, we have a fund made up of monies derived from those lands and then it is up to this body to distribute those funds and that is also designated by the Constitution. So this is not an issue of taxation. It is not an issue of valuation. It is a simple issue of distribution of funds set aside for education and it is my contention and belief that the Education Committee should deal with that issue since it is simply a distribution within the boundaries of the State of Nebraska within the various school districts in this state as to how those monies are distributed. Now it is really that simple an issue it seems to me. The fact of the matter is that I'm sure probably the committee could deal with it but for the sake of the integrity of our committee systems I think our committees need to recognize that what they have historically done should be protected by the Reference Committee. Now I am also led to believe that Dr. Rodgers in his recommendations to the Reference Committee recommended that these two bills be sent to the Education Committee and I am simply asking this body to support me in rereferring them back to their appropriate committee, the Education Committee of the Nebraska Legislature.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: The next speaker is Senator Carsten followed by Senator Newell and Senator Koch and Senator Lamb. Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I was the one that raised the question of referral of these two bills in our Reference Committee meeting. I felt that the measures were tax measures and that they rightfully belonged in the Revenue Committee. At the second meeting we had Dr. Rodgers admitted that at one point in the past history, a school land valuation bill was in the Revenue Committee even though other times they had been sent to the Education Committee. However, I think these two bills dealing with taxation