

all the school boards are an arm of this body and nothing more, and school boards by and large probably do a pretty good job but there are some that are not doing a very good job at all. Every time I look at the appropriation to the University of Nebraska and see the amount of money we are appropriating to that institution, I am not anti-University but I just hope the children who matriculate there are able to handle the basics and that is all 338 is it's a basic philosophy on what public schools should be about. If the role and mission is good enough for the postsecondary education in the State of Nebraska, it is good enough for the public schools in the State of Nebraska. We finance very little to the public schools. We finance virtually all to the postsecondary education schools, the biggest share of it. I would like for us to pick up 70 percent of the costs of public education, but this body only treats it on some impulse and we wouldn't have had any more state aid to education if it hadn't been for a few of us who live and die by it every year and then there are those who say, look what I did to relieve your property tax. Usually the chief executive says that when he vetoes it. But this body has had enough courage over the years occasionally to look at the responsibilities, but too often we look in other places and I submit to you today if Japan and Germany and other countries are rising in front of us it is due to some extent that we have been negligent in how we look at the institution of education.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute.

SENATOR KOCH: Because every dollar you put into it you are going to have dollars returned and every dollar you fail to put into it you are going to have to provide for the welfare and care of people who couldn't make it because they didn't have the same treatment of access and equity that you and I might have had, or they didn't inherit large sums of money so suddenly they become the last of the immaculate conceptions. And I am saying to you go ahead and beat down 338 and I want a record vote because then I want to go to the school boards and the school administrators and others and say, here is your policymakers, this is what they believe in role and mission. There should be no role and there should be no mission, just let it grow up like Topsy and hope that something good happens. Mr. Chairman and members of this body, I sincerely hope that you will search your conscience and that you will vote aye. This state needs a role and mission for public education and they can afford no less and neither can you or I. Thank you.