

high population. All the rest of the area that I represent will lose from a third to a half of what they got last year, not only at the school level but also at the county level. So with that, I suggest that we either amend the bill that we had last year or into this bill or come up with a better solution than 816. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Schmit. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and colleagues, I want to make a few statements here this afternoon. If you'll notice in your bill book I did vote to advance this bill to General File and the reason I voted to advance it to General File is because I felt that we needed a bill up here to determine how we were going to distribute the \$70 million, the \$70 million from the personal property tax relief fund. I think all the committee members voted it out of committee as amended. We didn't have a printout at that time and after I received the printout, why I was kind of shocked at what some of the counties and some of the school districts in my legislative district would receive. They stand to lose over a hundred thousand dollars, some of them as much as 30% on up to 50% and of course this loss would have to be replaced with property taxes and of course you know how people feel about property taxes anymore. Also I started receiving a lot of letters and a lot of telephone calls from various subdivisions of government asking me how I expected them to pick up this great a loss with property taxes and of course I didn't have an answer for them. I want to commend our Revenue Committee chairman, Senator Carsten, for all the work that he has done on this and we've worked long and hard hours. I think some of our committee meetings ran quite late into the evening but I do not feel at this time we've found an appropriate distribution formula. And of course, the way it looks, to make it constitutional, we'd have to go on a population formula and of course you know what happens when we do that, the rural areas lose, the urban areas gain and I think that it is just a little bit unfair. So at the present time I am willing to go along with last year's formula. I know that if it is challenged by some person or some local government, the courts will probably find it unconstitutional but I'm hoping that we can pay it out for another year this way and then have an interim study when we have a little more time and try to find a solution to the problem that we have.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I do want to rise in opposition to Senator Carsten's amendment. I am very sympathetic to Senator Carsten's situation. I know as the chairman of the Revenue Committee he has worked very hard to try to effect a reasonable solution for the