

March 18, 1982

LB 816

SENATOR CLARK: The motion lost. The next motion.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I move that LB 816 be advanced to E & R initial as amended and just a couple of comments if I may, Mr. President, on behalf of that motion. I, as chairman of the Revenue Committee, and our committee stands ready and willing to work with any one or as many of you as care to, to try and make this bill better between now and Select File and I welcome all of your support and help in that endeavor. We're in this together and I want you to know that. We're not trying to hog anything but let's do make an honest attempt to get this back to the people the way that we intended to do it that is constitutional. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: On the advancement of the bill, Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I welcome Senator Carsten's invitation to work together but I would have to say that I take it with just a grain of salt because for four years I've taken to that body, that committee, a bill which has never had serious opposition, a bill which has had strong support and a bill which does treat equitably the problems of distribution of funds. And as I have said many times and I have talked individually with every single member of that committee from time to time, and they have reinforced my conviction that it is a good bill and yet, notwithstanding that, we find ourselves today voting to advance a bill which by the most, I would say, generous assistance, cannot be considered to be equitable. Now equity again is a matter of whether you have the votes or not. I recognize that and as Senator DeCamp has said, that many times on this floor we advance a measure in haste and repent in plenty of time and I have been on that side also and Cal has from time to time reminded me of it with his usual good grace. But I would say this, as Senator DeCamp and others have said, Senator Haberman, that the time will come when the members of your district are going to ask you and if they should ask you tonight what the bill does for you or what the bill does in the matter of equitable treatment in the area of property taxes, I would hope that you are better prepared to answer it than most of us will be because the evidence is not there. The record is not clear except from this standpoint. You are turning your back upon any kind of method of distribution of funds other than population. As Senator Newell said, he didn't