

Equalization...Foundation and Equalization Fund. So I have to assume, without any clarification from Senator Schmit, that the half of the penny increase in sales tax would go to state aid to schools. And rather than direct property tax, we would have the 50...about \$50 million going to the teachers fund to increase their salaries, the other half, the other \$50 million would be going to state aid to schools. So you know is that really property tax relief is my basic question here. It's state aid to schools, it could be...there could be some property tax relief in there, but I would point out that there is no guarantee that there would be dollar-for-dollar property tax relief. And in past experience that is what has happened, there probably...there would be some property tax relief in that \$50 million allotment to the state aid to schools, but in all probability it would not be \$50 million worth of property tax relief, it may be considerably less than that amount.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The Chair is pleased to announce that Senators Lynch and Pirsch have some guests in the north balcony. We have 38 fifth graders from Omaha's Springville Elementary School with their teacher. Would you people stand and be recognized. Thank you, we're glad to have you with us this morning. Hope you enjoy it. We're discussing the Chambers amendment to the Schmit amendment. I have a number of lights on. Again, we'll go through them. Senator Smith, would you care to discuss it? Thank you. Senator Moore. Thank you. Senator Ashford. Senator Ashford. Senator Withem. Senator Withem, thank you. Senator Chambers, we'll jump you for a moment. Senator Schellpeper. Thank you. Senator Crosby, on the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad all those people left. I feel a little like Senator Lamb. I've been waiting all morning. And Senator Chambers gave me an opportunity to hop in here and say a couple of things. First, I'm against the sales tax increase as a matter of principle. So I don't like that Schmit amendment. I feel like this morning we've gotten clear away from what we originally started out to talk about, which is enhancement of teacher's salaries through the school districts. The last couple of days we've talked about teachers like they were some kinds of birds out there on the window sill asking us for a handout. My friends, I've listened to all and looked at all the graphs and the charts as to how much it's going to cost. I understand what the price tag is. I understand we have to find the money to pay for it. But