

applicable here and that is that when we talk about education and we speak about teachers' salaries, any attempt to say that it is not a property tax issue leaves me a little bit cold. There isn't any way you can separate the two, nor should we be embarrassed at coupling the two. I have said here before I am not ashamed nor embarrassed nor afraid to go back and explain to my people that I did this because I know that if you are serious about LB 89, then you must seriously address the issue of funding, not just in the year of 1989 but from this time on. I wish that I had the support of this body to dedicate this kind of money to some of the programs which I think are meritorious. I am not confident enough to try that. But I do believe that this program is meritorious enough that we can dedicate that one cent for that program. And as a dedicated fund, it is, I believe, a germane amendment and one which does become a part of the bill properly. So I would oppose the question that my good friend, Senator McFarland, raises as to whether or not the bill is germane.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers, did you wish to talk on the germaneness issue? Okay. I have several lights on and I don't know which wish to talk about the bill or which one wanted to talk on germaneness. Are there any lights that are on that wish to talk about germaneness? Senator Warner, did you wish to talk about that? Senator Withem, we'll take you first on the germaneness situation.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, my position on the germaneness question, I try to do what Senator Chambers chastised the body for not doing earlier and I think he was right in his general chastising of us and I try not to do that. I try to look at whether it's a relevant amendment or not versus whether I agree with it or whether I don't. I don't agree with the Schmit amendment but I think it would be a horrible precedent to establish in here that if a member wants to formulate a program that spends money, that it's not the right of some other member to say, where is the money going to come from and proposing where that money will come from. Nothing could be germane...more germane, conceptually, than spending money and raising money. The two concepts go together. I would argue that it's irrelevant where they are in the statutes but there is an inherent legislative right, some would argue even responsibility, when you talk about spending money to have the option of determining where those dollars are coming from. We do that all of the time in here and it's...in many cases it's probably appropriate. A few years ago