

recent events. But those who are familiar with history would know that that is exactly what occurred before 1903 over a series of several years. I suspect it wasn't because of somebody else or new bills or whatever, it was just the way it worked. So I think the policy that is being discussed is one that you ought to really give thought to, not on the basis of does it help or hurt the bill, but how strongly do you believe that this concept should be sustained and at what level, and how isolated do you want to keep it from other conflicting appropriation requirements that we have to consider. With that, Mr. President, I'd ask to have the amendment...or the motion withdrawn.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The motion is withdrawn. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have nothing further to Senator Schmit's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: We're back to the Schmit amendment. Discussion? Senator Labedz, followed by Senators Schimek, Withem and Nelson. Senator Labedz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. President. I rise in support of the Schmit amendment. I voted against decreasing it to one-half strictly for the teachers salary. We all know, and I think we've all heard that the teachers in the State of Nebraska are underpaid. But also the homeowners are truly overpaying their property tax, and that is why I will vote for the amendment, at least one-half of the one cent will go to the homeowners. But I do have some misgivings about voting for LB 89 itself. And let me tell you that on LB 346, and I have the list here, there are...I received, and I first must say in my 13 years here have I ever received that many letters, all total I have 650 letters, 210 of them are from Omaha. And I have the list here, if you'd like to stop by the desk and see whether or not your area is included, and that is on LB 346, which is the tuition tax credit for private schools. Every time we do something for the public schools it seems like the private schools suffer because we then must raise our teachers salaries to coincide at least as close as possible in order to provide quality education for the private schools. So we are going to be in a dilemma because now LB 346 will not be heard this year. I have letters from Adams, Alliance, Beemer, Brainard, Ceresco, Columbus, Aurora, Bellevue, Burwell. From Columbus I have several, I have over 30 from