

increase and the need at the local level. In other words, even though we would allocate the funding, that they never kept pace because there are other local subdivisions of government that rely on property taxes. The schools' costs are not going to decrease, they are going to increase as the years go on, and the small amount of relief that we have provided traditionally in the way of a state aid appropriation has not been anything that has kept current or has kept pace with the increased costs or the increase in the local subdivisions of government. In order to achieve that end so that there is ultimately a property tax relief, we felt that there was a need to address the issue of alternative funding, and the income tax being the proposal that would be able to keep pace. I know Senator Schmit, and myself, and I think a number of other, I think Senator Bernard-Stevens, introduced bills that dealt with placing a sales tax formula into the funding mechanism to allow for property tax relief. Those proposals were rejected by the Revenue Committee. The proposal that was advanced out was LB 611, Senator Moore's, and that contains in the committee amendments two proposals that with the adoption of Senator Moore's amendments would be retained, and they are the issue of LB 104, which was another bill that was introduced by Senator Moore, that would render a tax return incomplete if it did not include the school district number on it. Currently, our tax returns allow for a box that asks for your school district number. Many of us, with over 800 school districts, do not know what our school district is. To date, that was just to provide information on a voluntary basis. What the committee amendments would do and what LB 104 did was provide that an income tax return would be incomplete if it did not have that information on it. What that means is that the return would be sent back to the filer and that information would be necessary in order to warrant a return complete, so they would have to fill out that box. The other part of the committee amendments that will be retained with the adoption of Senator Moore's amendment to them is the sunseting of the foundation and equalization aid that was the basis for bringing people to the table to discuss the issue of a shift from property tax to income tax. The committee amendments wiped out that foundation and equalization formula. Senator Moore's amendment will sunset them, so there is a change there with the Moore amendment, but the intent is the same, that we move away from foundation and equalization for basis of...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.