

ahead. It is important that we make some sort of change, and with the intent language, we are basically saying here is what our direction is. Hopefully, Senator Withem's School Finance Review Commission, which Senator Lamb and myself sit on, could come back to you next year and give you a more detailed version of what we are able to do, modeling something very similar to what they do in Kansas. Now one of the first battles I watched back as a staff member in the Legislature in the 1982 session, the whole battle over 816, and those of you that were around that era, you can remember the constant battle of who was paying whose way. Lincoln and Omaha were paying outstate Nebraska's way; outstate Nebraska was paying Lincoln and Omaha's way. There was a constant, constant battle, turf battle on who was getting whom in that whole state aid distribution formula. That is why I think it is important that we move towards something like this, which is, basically, a state aid distribution formula but it is a distribution formula that fairly gives back to a school district income that came from that area. That is the one key thing that it does, and it maintains the concept of local control. Instead of being state dollars, it is local dollars. That is very important. Secondly, probably even more significantly, what this bill will allow basically, if we ever get to a point where we actually adopt a total local income tax, it will allow school districts in this state to tap their revenue sources. That is very significant to a lot of school districts in this state that have been clamoring for a change in state aid and changing away from our present foundation and equalization mix to a weight that is more weighted towards equalization. Well, most of those school districts, if they could tap their income, they would not be so concerned about switching state aid around, and they wouldn't need it, because if they were given their income and their property, they would have the finance to operate that school. I think there is a variety of reasons where a background as working for Senator Sieck and talking with Senator Remmers and others, I remember back in 1982 when we first came across the idea in Kansas, I, myself, believe this is the direction we need to go in the State of Nebraska. Now if we pass LB 611, we are just saying that is our intention. We are planning to get there. Probably tomorrow morning we will get to LB 84 and, eventually, if we have to, get to LB 809. It is important that those bills are strictly short term. LB 611, the local income tax concept, is long term, a long-term solution to our problems to do something with property taxes, and I think it is fairly simple. If any of you have further questions on this bill, please come talk to me between