

That's probably a decision that we'll have to wait until Final Reading to fully decide. Senator Lamb has raised an issue that I think is very valid and that is with state aid, which has been our vehicle for property tax relief in the past, that the state aid formula should probably be included in. Now there is additional concern that has been raised over the funding mechanism of this and, really, I don't have any problems with the funding mechanism in LB 89 because it is beneficial to my district and, for that reason, I feel that the funding mechanism is fine. I can understand Senator Lamb's concern though. The current state aid formula, I don't feel is fair in some regards but it was probably put together as a compromise decision. This particular proposal of Senator Lamb's is interesting. I'm not sure if I'm going to be supporting it or not because it puts everything back as it was in years past with funding decisions being made, I don't feel, in the fairest manner. I know my Millard school district should receive more state aid in their funding mechanism. They're the school district that has a great deal of need. They have a great deal of increase in student bodies. We have an increase in the amount of students that are coming into our school district. I know that it was interesting, I went to a dinner the other day put on by the Millard Foundation and back in 1955 there was about 30 students that were in the Millard school district from K through third grade. At this time, there is over 1,300 in that same grade period.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR ABOUD: So we have seen a phenomenal increase in that area and the state has not always adjusted that state aid formula to take into account the school districts that are still continuing to grow. I do appreciate Senator Lamb's concern but I don't feel that the supporters of this particular bill will be all that supportive of his proposal. Probably the best thing to do is to examine this particular bill in light of the other homestead exemption proposals that are before the body. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The Chair is pleased to advise that Senators Lindsay, Hall and other Omaha area senators have some guests in our north balcony. We have 47 students and their teacher from Central High School in Omaha. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you for being with us. We're glad to have you. Further discussion on the Lamb