

appropriate level for state aid to education and that's the appropriate time to consider that. I do not think that mixing these two issues...the bill, if you remember, when the bill was originally introduced it did mix the two issues. The committee said it preferred not to do that. The body accepted the committee amendments. There have been attempts a couple of other different times to raise the state aid issue even as a substitute for or in addition to the components of LB 89. Again, it has been rejected. Procedurally, I think it's the wrong way to go. Procedurally, I don't think we ought to adopt the Goodrich amendment although I'm sure sometime before the end of the session is over I'm going to be supporting some increases in state aid to education. That's probably not a big shock to anyone. But I don't think this is the appropriate vehicle to do that. I think that the people that have brought us LB 89, Senator Lynch, other sponsors of the bill, deserve an up or down vote on Final Reading. I think this bill ought to be going over to Final Reading and then we ought to decide on Final Reading, do you wish, as a Legislature, to make the policy decision to support teachers' salaries at the state level? We've heard excellent arguments on both sides of that issue. Senator Lamb and Senator Dierks give excellent arguments. They're wrong but they give excellent arguments on why we should not do that. Senator Bernard-Stevens gave another excellent argument on why setting up a categorical aid program to support teachers' salaries is a good argument. We ought to keep the issues separate. We ought to, unfortunately, vote against the Goodrich amendment. We ought to, very fortunately, vote against the Lamb amendment and then get on with the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Warner, please.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the Goodrich amendment but also support Senator Lamb's amendment. We're kind of down to a place...I didn't know it was going to necessarily occur today but we're...I guess we're at a place where we have to indicate a preference of what we, individually, would support in the way of education. There's a lot of things that run through my mind as I try to select a spot for myself in this issue. It's been pointed out we have a property tax relief bill which, as I see it, really doesn't do anything, does just that, it does not address the issue of enhancing education. We have 89 which is addressed at enhancing of the most fundamental part of elementary secondary education which would be teachers. And then we have the current