

amendment to the amendment and I support the amendment. I have always been a strong supporter of this type of assistance to the schools. I believe that notwithstanding all of the good intentions and all of the other various proposals that are before this body to provide tax relief to the citizens that the direct tax relief in this manner is perhaps the best property tax relief that we can give. There are a number of other proposals here and I'm going to just touch briefly. You will recall that I had a bill before the Revenue Committee that would have provided for a 2 percent sales tax increase and I allowed the committee the discretion of how they wanted to spend it. For my part, I would have put the entire amount into the school system and then I would have ridden shotgun and encouraged the citizens that have ridden shotgun on the school boards that it be spent properly. But I think that unless we are going to make a concerted effort in this manner to get that money back to those schools we will always be relying far too much upon property tax...upon the property taxes to support the schools. We ought to try to designate a larger portion of sales and income tax to the support of the schools. I'm just going to make one more comment relative to LB 84. And I know there has been a lot of work done on that bill and Senator Hall had a proposal which I thought was a good one and which I have drafted and offered as an amendment to that bill because, under the present proposal you have in LB 84, if we give \$98 million back to the people, about 18 to \$20 million of it, kind of a shotgun figure, was going to go right to the federal government. Doesn't make any sense to me that we think we are so well off here that we can transfer money from the Nebraska state treasury to the federal treasury. I'm not going to get into that any more because I don't want to argue that at this point. But I think that we ought to look at a long range program of placing money in those school funds. It should not have any impact on LB 89. It should not have any impact upon LB 84. We should face our first responsibilities and that first responsibility, in my estimation, is to try to more properly fund the state aid to schools program. Senator Warner is on target when he says it ought to be a two-year program. We should not just put it in there one year and jerk it back out the next. I received a number of phone calls from people in the last few days who, of course, received their tax notices the 1st of May and they are not very pleased with those tax notices and I can predict that as those notices come out six months from now and a year from now, there will be less acceptance of them. So, to the extent that we can do so, we should attempt to relieve those local