

breaker. You know, I learned as the father of 10 children not to promise my children something that I couldn't deliver on. Never promise you're going to take them to the county fair unless you want to deliver it. We have gotten ourselves into a bind. We have chosen, because it is politically popular, to speak about property tax relief, to promise the people property tax relief and so each of us have tried to outdo the other in an attempt to deliver property tax relief, to the extent that the people actually thought maybe we were going to get some substantive property tax relief. I proposed a bill before the Revenue Committee which would have provided 2 percent sales tax, hopefully, to have gone back to the schools so that there would have been substantive property tax relief in the area where it is most noticeable. Instead of that, we have gone through one exercise after another and now we are arguing about whether or not we can afford 18 million. The bill that Senator Lynch is very close to, LB 89, is a bill which in the present form does not provide much compensation for my legislative district but I have generally not opposed it and I will probably support it. But LB...or the 18 million we talk about here does provide some small amount of support for the district which I represent. I have said many times that LB 84 contains a \$20 million free gift from the federal government. There is an amendment which Senator Hall discussed and which the proponents of the bill discussed which they did not choose at this time to make a part of the bill but I have added it to the...I have added it to an amendment to LB 84 and it needs to be cut in half, it needs to be a 10 percent instead of a 20 percent amendment but that's so someone else can whittle at it. You can take \$75 million back under that proposal and save the 18 million for aid to schools right here. But, no, we choose not to follow that path. Now it's easy for us to become incensed and indigent and righteous on this floor but each of us has an equal right to be indigent, each of us has an equal right to express our own point of view and argue for our own position. Senator Hefner has put his finger on it. We have increased the budget and that is our primary concern for state purposes many times in the last few years since we have increased the budget for state aid. We have not accepted our responsibility insofar as providing state funds to local schools. We are far short of that. Not until we bite the bullet and provide several hundreds of millions of dollars and then those of you who are better at it than I am can figure out how you control it but not until you do that will you have the two things you need most, substantive property tax relief and substantive aid to schools. The rest of this is all just