

education. But they don't have things available to them that some of the kids in the communities have and so you have to take those things into consideration. You don't just look at the valuation of the land around them, you look at some of the physical things that those kids have and there is a discrepancy there if you want to talk about equity. So that is the reason I supported Lamb's amendment. Now, I have a question on this issue and, Senator Schmit, I don't...oh, there you...will you come back, please? I'd like to ask you a question and if you can't answer it, I would like to ask Senator Withem.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schmit, would you respond.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, Mr. President, I'll try.

SENATOR SMITH: I guess I want to make it very clear that I'm trying to be really fair in this issue, and by the way, I did used to reside in that district that Senator Lynch referred to, for many, many years through no fault of my own. That was in my days of being ignorant about taxes and things like that, I just paid them as I was told to, but I now live in the city school district in Hastings, so there is nothing of benefit for me on any of this either. But the question that I have, Senator Schmit, we do have a Class VI district which my children all went to, and so I want to make sure that we're being really fair here and I understand what you're saying, we need to separate because there is only those grades, what, 7-12 in a Class VI, and so that is a different classification in the K-12 system that we're talking about. And so you are wanting to separate them from the amendment that, as proposed by the committee, but what would happen...I lost my place...

SENATOR SCHMIT: I forgot the question.

SENATOR SMITH: I forgot my question. (laughter) Oh, great, I'll probably need to put my light back on, but I had a question about the difference that that may create and another problem that might surface. I can't even remember it right now. I'll put my light back on and come back again.

SPEAKER BARRETT: There were no other lights on. Senator Smith, would you care to continue? Senator Smith, you are recognized.

SENATOR SMITH: ...light the only one on? I haven't had time to think.