

time we have a clear picture of what is required constitutionally. And that's why this bill follows the Minnesota statute nearly to the letter in providing a sure constitutional ground in which we can tread upon. So I feel that there is no constitutional bar at this time. There is no question that it will reduce property taxes for our homeowners, and that's really my top priority this year, is reducing property taxes, and I'm sure it's a majority's opinion in this body that property taxes do need to be reduced. It's a small price to pay.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: One minute.

SENATOR ABBODD: I urge the adoption and advancement of LB 346. Thank you.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Senator Hall. Next to speak will be Senator Lynch. But before I introduce him, I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce a guest of Senator Jacklyn Smith. Under the north balcony, from Hastings, Nebraska, is Mr. Stanley Shuck. Would you please rise and be welcomed. Thank you for visiting the Legislature today. Senator Lynch, please, followed by Senator Beck and Senator Hall.

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes, Mr. President, members, I feel qualified to talk and discuss this bill since I probably spent enough money to buy a couple of houses and a couple of cars on education. I have no kicks about that. I've never asked for any help, it was my choice. Fortunately, I had a better opportunity because I could afford it better than some others, although I couldn't afford it sometimes either, to send my kids to public school...or to private schools. Times have changed. This legislation would make it possible for some people now who absolutely cannot find the means to help support sending their kids to a school that is, in fact, their choice. I think it's a small thing we can do, indeed, to allow this to happen and, in fact, I think it would, in a sense, be almost irresponsible for us not to. We can't talk a lot about education on this floor, about the quality of education, about choices that people should be able to make regarding that education and not consider a small stipend, in effect, in a sense, that would apply as well as this could apply and make a difference in some cases, not all but in some. I think it's important for us to seriously consider this legislation. And I think it's fair for us to consider it as well. You know traditionally we've done things,