

condemn the School Boards Association for putting this information out. I think it was a little bit unfair to us that felt that maybe we could support the bill with some minor adjustments but didn't want to co-sponsor it. And so I would hope, be hopeful that they would in their next newsletter at least address this problem that I had. I supported Senator Lamb's amendment this morning. I think it's only right if we say we want to replace property tax with sales and income tax, well, let's do it. Let's don't just do it for some districts, let's do it for everybody if that's the reason behind this bill. But again, getting back to my amendment that is on page 649, I just want to make it perfectly clear that this is a three-year lid instead of just a one-year lid and if you have any questions I'd be real happy to try and answer them for you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. To a discussion of the Hefner amendment, Senator Schmit, on the amendment.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I can give you a dozen reasons why I don't like lids and if you recall a number of years ago when we were under some pressure because we thought Mr. Jaksha was going to put a lid in the Constitution, I recall the almost terror that was on this floor as we attempted to circumvent Mr. Jaksha and install a statutory lid as opposed to a constitutional lid, the argument being that we can get rid of the statutory lid and thereby we can go back to realistic financing for schools when the time comes. Well, the facts are that the lid turned out to be a guaranteed annual increase, I believe it was 7 percent. Virtually every single entity of government took their maximum increase each year. The few who didn't, when they found out that they were in some kind of financial difficulty because of a local circumstance, found themselves jeopardized for not doing so and so all of a sudden they were up against the wall and those who had gone ahead and taken the full statutory increase were the ones who were wallowing in the extra funds. We find then that as time goes by, we look at these, we review these numbers here and we talk about in terms of need, terms of need based upon spending. Is the spending really actual need or is it based upon the wants, the wants of a district, the wants of a school system? Ladies and gentlemen, I guess I could support Senator...if we're going to talk about a lid, then it ought to be somewhat of a realistic lid, but I have a hunch that maybe we're going to get a lid anyway. I have a hunch that Mr. Jaksha might actually come in with his 2 percent lid, that it might actually be successful. I