

to pay a more fair share for the cost of that education. That's really what 1059 does. It doesn't do a whole lot else. It says that it isn't a property tax relief bonanza, it is not some kind of a save all proposal in terms of the tax system in Nebraska, as Senator Moore pointed out, but what it does is it says the State of Nebraska has recognized that we have lacked woefully behind in our support of education at the elementary and secondary level and that we intend, through the passage of LB 1059, to address that and we're going to put our money, basically, where our children's education is and that's all it does. Does it raise taxes for some people? Yes. Does it lower taxes for some people? Yes. Does it affect to any great extent the overall tax burden across the state? The answer to that is no, very little, very little. And Senator Moore pointed that out and I also handed out to you a sheet that was a part of the package that was not included in the material from the Revenue Department, that shows just exactly what the shift of burden is. So I think the overall concern here with whether or not a lid is an appropriate measure and to what length it should retain part of the...remain part of the bill is one that Senator Hefner rightly brings to us and I, for one, look at it as probably one of the redeeming pieces of LB 1059. I think it ranks right up there with the redistribution and it ranks right up there with the state throwing in more money into the pot for education which we have not done.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: We have shirked that responsibility over the years and we've helped a little bit, but then we have not kept up to any great extent. All 1059 does is I think bring us up to where we should have been a few years ago, in fact, and with the Hefner amendment we guarantee that the local governments do have some kind of control over themselves, but yet I also look at the State of Nebraska and I don't see 1059 as a place where we should stop. I see increased funding coming from the state coffers as a must far into the future so that we guarantee that not just the lid, but more money injected into the systems at the local level allow the state to continue to support and move in the right direction with regard to funding of education. I would urge you to adopt Senator Hefner's amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Schellpeper, on the amendment.