

schools and public school districts. And this would be a way to feel that we really are cooperating, and we feel we have the same goal, and that is to educate our children. Our schools live up to certificated teachers...and to make our schools as strong as possible. A lot of our schools turn out graduates that are sought after in the job field. And so I just feel that from the point of view of fairness and for the amount of money that we do contribute to the tax pool, and we support our own schools and don't use up that tax money, that we, in fairness, should have this small ability, it's very...comparatively speaking it isn't a large amount. So, I just thank you very much for listening to me, and I hope that you'll vote for the amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, on the Labeledz amendment, followed by Senators Hartnett, Byars and Landis.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, again, I guess about the same debate that we had before, the same discussion. I don't think that there is any one of us doubt or do not support the quality of education that we find in the private schools and so on. I pose the same question as I posed when this was discussed several weeks ago, is that...and I am aware for the bill to probably be constitutional that it does have to include public schools, too. I think that every one of us can sit down that have children, or everyone that would have in school, and we can add up two, three, four hundred dollars in school expenses, or even maybe more than that. Multiply that times two or three children, I don't know what the...what that amount would come to, but I can obviously see this as a very open-ended bill, very easy to add up those expenses. Now, this does come off the adjusted gross income. It does not come off as an itemizer, which it should, because it wouldn't hardly do any good if it did. Another question, in my hometown I checked with a couple schools, the tuition runs all the way from 200 to 900 dollars, based upon the ability to pay. Mostly this same group, if low income, have earned income credits, which do amount to a considerable amount of money. But my point is, with that graduation of tuition I'm not even sure I have a question there. And if they are nonchurch members then in one school it's \$1,200, and \$1,500 as nonchurch members. I have had, of course, not nearly the calls that I'm sure Senator Labeledz has had. But, in fact, just a few minutes ago, from a party that they do send their children to a private Catholic school, as they say, our choice. I'm very much against this. I've also