

had calls from people that belong to the Peace Lutheran and the Trinity Lutheran School, and this is my choice, and, Arlene, don't start down the road because then where do you start and where do you stop. If it were for tuition only, I could certainly feel a lot more comfortable about the bill. But I realize why the others have to be included, and this is a very open-ended bill. I think I've been out speaking where Senator Langford has been speaking, and she's used the figure of \$85 average. I don't know where that one would come from, but if you multiply 1,100 by 3.15 you're more 34, 35 dollars. Not a big amount. It is a help, but I think it would take a lot of the families right out of the Nebraska tax. So, with that, I have no problem, if it was tuition, probably tuition only, but I am hesitant to start down that road, too. And I see this as a very open-ended bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I rise to oppose the amendment. I do favor the concept. I did in committee, I did vote for the bill, LB 346, when it was on the floor. But I think that, and I have had my children attend both public and private schools, and I think that is a choice, and I guess that's why I favor it. But I do not think that that is an issue that should be tied with this. I think it's a separate issue, and I guess I will continue to support the issue of providing tax relief to private students that make the choice to attend, as was introduced by Senator Hall and LB 346. But I really do not see that this is...should be part of this issue. So I rise to oppose this amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Byars, please.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. I'm really not standing to oppose the amendment, because I have supported this concept on General File in the form of the bill. But I'm going to stand to ask you to oppose this amendment on 1059. I think that we're dealing with a piece of legislation that obviously is going to have a tremendous impact on the State of Nebraska for many years to come. And, I think, if we call the bill fragile, I think it would be appropriate. And anything of this sort that we add to this bill I think is going to endanger its passage. So I would urge you, please, not to support this amendment, not because the amendment is bad. I would support the concept of the amendment, but not