

March 20, 1990

LB 1059

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, please, followed by Senator Lowell Johnson. Thank you. Senator Lowell Johnson.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Call the question.

PRESIDENT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. And the question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Debate has ceased. Senator Smith, are you going to close, please.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President. And I want to thank all those people that did stand up and debate this issue and especially those, of course, that were supportive of the concept. Senator Chambers made a comment about the fact that the intent of the bill, as it's debated, I guess...I guess what I would like to do is just expand upon that a little bit and just say that one of the things that Senator...or that Governor Orr brought out as a concern about the bill was this very issue. And, yes, I agree with you, Senator Chambers, I hope that she or someone in her office is listening because this is just one of the steps that I think we need to take in order to make this become a better piece of legislation. We talked about this earlier. I think that this is a bill that is very far-reaching. It needs to be debated in detail which is what we are doing and I think that we need to be also willing to make the changes that we see that surface. Maybe that wasn't the original intent of the people that introduced this piece of legislation, as Senator Chambers commented, but it's been brought to our attention, and this being an education bill, then I think that it's only right that we don't increase funds for another resource in the state. That's not the intent. And if we have a concern about taxes, then we should take this out of there because this helps at least that little bit. And, Senator Schmit, you know, you made a comment about the fact that a penny here and a penny there is a lot easier to pay. Well, yeah, it is a lot easier to pay for middle and low income people. That's the reason I voted for the McFarland amendment on this bill, because I have a concern about those people and it's a lot easier for those people to pay the penny here and the penny there than it is to pay a chunk of money when they have to buy a new motor vehicle of some sort. And there are many of those in the state that are not...that