

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, well, Senator Ashford, you and I have similar problems and my problem has to do with sparsity. You know, this bill doesn't take into consideration sparsity. If you have high transportation costs out there where pupils are transported long distances, that's not taken into consideration in this bill and that, as far as I am concerned, is a big drawback. Another part of it is the fact that some of those tiers, the lowest tier is 100 pupils. We have so many schools out there with fewer pupils and as you get down to the low numbers, then it's very difficult to keep the cost down and so that's not adequately taken care of in the bill also because the first tier being 100 students, you know, that's clear out of the realm. So I don't know, I don't know what we're going to do. At one point we were going to ignore all those on the commission, but, you know, I'm going to agree with you, it's unfair, it's unfair, and it does not work the way it should. We look at the printout, we look at the printout here and we've got some school districts who will have a levy of 7 cents for \$100, 7 cents per \$100. One school district was zero, zero, zero, zero. Then we're going to have an amendment that is going to put some artificial minimum mill levy in there that's really artificial, I mean, it just masks the deficiencies in the bill which is the same thing the hold harmless does. But with a minimum levy there, you're virtually admitting that the bill is deficient, that under the formula you get the schools that have virtually no property tax at all, and then when I hear the proponents of this bill say, yeah, we're going to equalize things, we're going to equalize things, but now we're going to have a whole bunch of school districts, if you don't put a minimum levy in there of some kind, which the original bill did not have, then you're going to have school districts with virtually no property tax at all. Now, maybe that's fair, maybe that's a kind of a formula we're looking at that we want, but I don't think it's fair, I don't think anybody in his right mind thinks it's fair.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, did you wish to speak on this matter? Your light is on.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Just very briefly in response to my good friend, Senator Lamb. Senator Lamb, your question or the point you raised about the distances not being considered out there was in a sense answered by Senator Hefner this morning, and you are given consideration because diverting money to the Highway Trust Fund is going to build you better roads and Senator Hefner