

minute of my closing to Senator Scofield.

PRESIDENT: Senator Scofield, you have a minute.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Senator Moore. It occurs to me the question of equity, educational equity is a central question surrounding this bill and I want to just relate a little story to you that I've thought about many times as we've debated this bill. As some of you know, I went to high school in Chadron. My first teaching job out of college was at Omaha Westside. In fact, Sandy Meyers was one of my students. I tell you, I walked around with my mouth open for the first three weeks, as a new teacher, because I, frankly, didn't know that there was a high school anywhere that had that range of offerings. It was a wonderful school. It was a wonderful teaching experience. It is one of the best schools in the nation. But that really taught me a lot about educational equity those two years in terms of what the offerings are like in the schools around this state. And I'll tell you, Chadron High was one of the better high schools and still is one of the better high schools in the panhandle of Nebraska, and so I think that there are clear examples around of the real problems that there are in terms of educational offerings that students have to pick from. Right in my own district Crawford is in great trouble and the offerings available at that school, not even 30 miles down the road, are very, very different from those in Chadron. That's a very isolated instance but in terms of the perspective that gave me...

PRESIDENT: Your minute is up.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: ...this bill has a real reason to pass, if only for the educational equity reasons. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Lamb, you have a minute.

SENATOR LAMB: Well, Mr. President and members, I guess I should have talked on a bunch of the amendments so I would have gotten an opportunity to talk after the bill has been amended, but I don't think I've got time enough to go into the things. I've got a number of things I'd like to talk about and I'll just start in with some people say there is no other option, there's no other option. Let me point out that LB 866, my priority bill, is there. I've asked Senator Barrett to special order that bill. I have put some amendments up there which modify the