

for. We decided that is just far too complicated. What we did is we set up the tier structure and our rationale was as follows: A school district that has sparse number of students, they're providing for those people now. That sparsity factor is built in their cost of operating the school just like the Omaha public school system has built into its system a cost of operating the school that involves a desegregation plan, sizable number of at risk students, all of the other factors that the Omaha public school system has. So rather than identifying the things that make a program more expensive or less expensive, let's just look at what they spend on education today. Let's set up these tiers and we will then reimburse people based upon their needs relative to other school districts of their size, and that's how we attempted to deal with this. If you have a school district that spends a lot of money on transportation, they're already spending that, that's built into their cost, it's built into the tiers. To be consistent, to be consistent, if we were going to put in a sparsity factor, what we need to be doing is taking a...do away with the tier structure, doing away with the tier structure entirely, finding an average cost per pupil as the need factor and then start identifying another list of adjustments that we're going to make on that single tier need. So it's really, if you adopt the Lamb amendment you're really giving school districts that are sparsely populated a double dip for their sparsity factor. That is point number one. Point number two, the Education Committee, and by and large the School Finance Review Committee, excuse me, the School Finance Review Committee, not the Education Committee, has taken the stand that 1059 only has had one year in operation. Other than these technical things that we know we need to do to make it operate, we ought not to be making substantive changes till we really see how it operates. That's the reason, and frankly the one exception the School Finance Committee made to that rule was with the Lincoln tier issue which we'll get to a little bit later. I'm not supporting that particular measure either. I want to remain consistent and say that we ought not to make significant adjustments. We're not suggesting significant adjustments in the lid. We're not suggesting significant adjustments in any distribution factors, and let it sit for a year or two to see how it operates. I think that the committee, the commission that evaluated the whole model originally had ample opportunity to adjust, to address the sparsity factor. We heard a lot of, from a lot of school districts in the state talking about...