

SENATOR MOORE: I, too, rise to support Senator Withem's amendment. This is actually an amendment I think Senator Hall had filed for a couple of months now. It makes not a whole lot of sense for me to commence on a statewide equalization program, given the vast uncertainties that we have in the State of Nebraska regarding, one, the valuation of property, and, two, what is taxed. And so, given that, I think it is wise to postpone it to '94. By doing that, probably the most...one of the more important things, to me, I guess, is the fact that there is presently roughly a half a million dollars appropriated each year of the biennium for this project. By adopting this amendment, we postponed it till '94 and thereby there was some safety in that language in the mainline bill that if this amendment was adopted, that roughly a million dollars would free up for the biennium. So, given that, I rise to support Senator Withem's amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator Ashford. Okay. Does anyone else wish to speak to this amendment? Seeing none, do you have closing, Senator Withem?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I do, basically, just in reference to what Senator Lamb had to say. This amendment is basically a revenue type of issue. It is not a school issue. That's why it's appropriate for it to be placed on a revenue bill. Secondly, Senator Lamb, between trying to...Senator Lamb, maybe if you would listen to this, between trying to argue the merits of this amendment and visit with Larry here, I am trying to get some plan together where we can utilize one of the approaches you mentioned this morning in getting LB 719 up and I'm...I will say it publicly now that I'm willing to go along with that if it will help expedite the consideration of the concepts in 719. So, hopefully, we'll deal with your concerns although I can't guarantee anything and if it's good strategy from your point of view to hold this amendment along with the rest of them, I can understand your voting that way. As far as the body is concerned, I think it's only appropriate and just to delay this process. It is about half a million dollars per year. We're looking at a bit of a gap in our budget at this point. So let's go ahead and adopt the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. We'll now vote on the Withem amendment. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.