

which if we could, I'd have got that in there, but Senator Lamb wouldn't let me put that in. So I don't think that provision is controversial anymore. And right now what we are doing is we are debating the suspension of the rules. If you vote no on the suspension of the rules, none of these will come up. If you vote yes on the suspension of rules, although I'd hate to do it because I know we are taking a lot of time and we have other things we need to do, these could be divided and dealt with separately and maybe that is what is going to have to happen, I don't know. I have spoken on the hold harmless and indicated why I am supporting it, and I certainly understand Senator Hall's views, Senator Landis's views, and Senator Lynch's views as to why as a policy a hold harmless is not a good policy, and I would agree with them. My support for it is only because it is a two-year extension and only because of the state of chaos in which we find ourselves in Nebraska at this moment with what will be the valuation that school districts will have to support themselves. Once that is straightened out somewhat, I will be returned to my proper role, and that being an opponent of hold harmless. The third item, Senator Bernard-Stevens is 100 percent right, this is real money we are talking about and I apologize to you because I did not realize that it is real money that we are talking about. But is it a justifiable policy decision to take place? Yes, I believe it is. I believe it is a justifiable policy choice to make because those school districts that are experiencing rapid growth do have costs and expenditures beyond those that are there for a stable school district. And why did we use the 25 number or the 1 percent number? It is because 25...and it is not just a number pulled out of the air. I don't know who asked where the number came from, but it is not a number pulled out of the air. Twenty-five students is basically a classroom unit, and if you get...and you can argue, if you get one, or two, or three additional students, you can find places for them in your existing school. If you get 25 students additional, that basically constitutes a classroom unit, you are probably going to have to hire another teacher. You are probably are going to have to have a room to put that student in. You are probably going to have new textbook purchases. So it makes some sense, I think, to give that money to the school districts when they receive it. I am going to support the suspension of the rules motion because I think these are all worthy matters of consideration. I will be voting for all of them. I would urge you to suspend the rules, and then if you have problems with any of these specific provisions, the provision of allowing for division is always