

Public Schools look down here and they see big numbers. A point is that big numbers happen in big school districts. I just found out from the Department of Education, I asked them what would happen to Omaha Public Schools' state aid to education if they had a one-tenth of one percent increase in their assessed valuation. That would cause them to lose \$70,000, just one-tenth of one percent. And the point of that is that any time you make any changes or any time you...as a matter of fact, any time you leave it in place and the factors out there that we don't control adjust, you have an increase in the valuation of ag land, you have a decrease in the valuation of ag land, the income levels in rural Nebraska go up or the income levels in rural Nebraska go down, any of these factors that are in 1059 are going to have an impact in the distribution and any of those changes are going to have big number impacts in Lincoln, are going to have big number impacts in Omaha because those school districts deal with big numbers. And so you shouldn't be terribly alarmed by looking down and seeing a \$300,000 change in Omaha Public Schools' state aid. I mean, I'm sure they're going to be concerned with that, but there are hundreds of other things that go on out there that have similar sorts of impacts. That is less than one-half of one percent, or it is one-half of one percent of their total...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR WITHEM: ..total state aid. So I have been rambling on here talking about the technicalities and haven't really spoken to the issue itself, and the issue itself is we're expecting school districts out there to educate kids as they come in the door. We don't give them an opportunity to turn kids away and say, no, I'm sorry, we have too many now. We tell them they have to educate those kids. And those school districts that have enough rapid growth that causes them to have to hire new teachers, buy new supplies, in some cases build new buildings to accommodate them, their aid ought to...that the state gives them ought to flow in in a quicker fashion and I support the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, I have a question for Senator Schrock, please.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Schrock, would you respond, please?