

believe that's the appropriate policy. They've received benefits. They have students. They have homes. They have other property that is going to be taxable in their district. They have received a direct benefit. The other option, and it's also an option that I liked, is that someone else pays, not the State of Nebraska, not the school district, not Micron, but somebody else pays, somebody else that stands to benefit by the project. My choice was the city that files the application for designation of the blighted area and goes through and promotes the project. They could contribute to the school aid formula the amount of money that's necessary to hold the school districts harmless.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: I thought that was a good solution. You can guess who didn't.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, Madam President, and members of the body, I rise to urge the body to vote no on this section of the committee amendments, recognizing that the committee did what it felt was probably proper at the time of addressing what appeared to be a major concern in terms of LB 1059 distribution. I do not believe that the recommendation that they made is a good one. And, Senator Wickersham, I don't make this analogy facetiously. I think it's a very accurate analogy, telling a local school district that you do not get...that you are held accountable for a resource that you do not have access to would be 100 percent analogous to telling school districts that have farm property that's valued at 80 percent that they have to be held accountable for 100 percent of that valuation. It's exactly the same issue. And instead of being a couple hundred thousand dollars, that would be several million dollars that would be redistributed. We have chosen not to do that. We've chosen not to hold school districts accountable for resources for which they are not...they're not available to them, and I don't think we ought to start with this particular bill at this particular time. I would urge this to be voted down. I would also like to point out what we're talking about when we're talking about numbers, because Senator Wickersham would have you to believe that this is a major, major distribution, distribution. Right now, we are distributing...and thank God