

May 9, 1995

LB 613
LR 93

decision we have to make, is it's going to be very difficult to go ahead and say we...one of the biggest reasons that the Revenue Committee or one of the reasons we have for LR 93 is that property tax is at a crisis situation in the State of Nebraska and when we talk about property tax we certainly recognize that about 60 percent of that usually goes to fund schools. So it's difficult to explain why, on the one hand, we should be going forward and saying that we need to respond to the crisis situation of property tax and then, on the other hand, saying but we want to set school finance aside. When we understand the issues with school finance, I think Senator Withem makes a strong case as to why and I asked him and I think Senator Withem, he agreed, that if we would adopt this amendment we need to look at some of the areas in 1059, certainly those that maybe have allowed school districts to go to that six and a quarter percent. Senator Withem, would you agree that that would be an area, some of those areas that we would like to concentrate on?

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, Senator Bohlke, as a matter of fact, as my thoughts are evolving on this, I'm beginning to wonder if maybe that wouldn't be a preferable approach to this particular amendment. I want to hear more debate on it but maybe, rather than dealing with it through...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SPEAKER WITHEM: ...this amendment, we'd be better off taking that more specific look between now and Select File on this particular bill.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you, Senator Withem, and that's what I had gone back to ask him, that...that this maybe is an opportunity to do that and so I will continue to listen to the debate, but I think that would be a more preferable direction. That's what I'm thinking at this time, but until I have some more time to discuss that with Senator Withem I'll listen to the remainder of the debate.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Withem, your light is next.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, Madam President and members of the body,