

think I'm probably going to withdraw it, but this is a bill that was...came to the floor the other day, Senator Robak's priority bill, dealing with state aid to education formula. That bill was bracketed. It is now back before us. Senator Robak hasn't had an opportunity to even comment on her bill yet, so I think what I'll do is explain what this amendment does, and then withdraw it and maybe offer it at a later time, but let's, at least, get to the point where we can have the discussion on the concept of the bill, itself. The state aid to education formula, when you get into the very specifics of it, can be very complicated, but I made some comment earlier this year that the essence of it is really fairly simple. It's a simple mathematic sort of a problem where to determine the state aid you take the needs that school districts have, subtract from that the resources, all other resources that they have, then the state makes up the difference through state aid. One of those resources that we count against the school district is the property that that school district has that it can tax. School district has more property than the average, then they get less state aid. If they have less property than the average school district, then they get more state aid. What the Robak bill, LB 349, seeks to do is adjust the valuation of the property that the school district has based on the amount of income that residents within the school district...in the school district earn. Other states do this, and you will hear that from Senator Robak, I am sure, that these...as a matter of fact, these numbers in here are based on a proposal passed in Missouri a few years ago. We, when we wrote the LB 1059 formula, very consciously decided to include an income component within the formula, but not the one that Senator Robak is talking about. What we did instead of adjust the valuation based on the income, we put a rebate into the formula, and we said, when we wrote the formula, that school districts only ought to have counted as against them those resources that they actually tap into, and you can't tap in, school districts don't tax income. So what we did is we put into the formula a rebate of income tax. What Senator Robak's bill does now is it adds a second component of income into the formula. What my amendment would do would be simply to say if we are going to add an income adjustment factor, then what we ought to do is repeal the rebate. That gets into a far more complex and I am sure argumentative discussion, which if it appears as though there will be support for doing what Senator Robak wants to do, that is to adjust valuations, then I may very well offer this amendment in a very