

February 14, 1996 LB 1050

property taxes for those districts when I think that the original intent of the income tax rebate was, in fact, to provide property tax relief, a new resource. Thank you.

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

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, members of the body, I would like to pursue the issue Senator Witek was asking with Senator Bohlke for just a moment or two if, if I could because like Senator Witek, and I think like a lot of other people in the Omaha area. Over the weekend we received a number of phone calls from parents who were sending their children, optioning their children into District 66. They had, evidently, received a letter from the superintendent at District 66 indicating that, that District 66, if this bill were to pass, would be reevaluating whether to participate in the option program, I think was, may not literally have been what they said, but that was the thrust of the message that the parents received. First of all, is it your understanding that a school district can, in fact, refuse to participate in the option program if it chooses not to?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Not if they have room.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Okay, right. And that's my sense, and these are kids that are already there so I'd assume that they would have, they would have their kids. Secondly, District 66 was concerned about the original provisions of LB 1050, which as I understood it, the net out provision would be, would be one where you take the number of students optioning into the district, the...and the number of students optioning out of the district, subtract those two, if there's still a positive number, then you multiply that times the average equalization state aid provision per student, and it would cost them a lot of money. That's originally what is in 1050, is that correct? Okay, now what you are doing here is, what you are doing here is you are instead of that average state aid, we're still netting out but we're multiplying that by an average per pupil cost or some variation of that. Now is that, is this the proposal that, I know that District 66 had a bill introduced into the Legislature with a net out provision, is this basically what was