

February 14, 1996 LB 1050

been hearing, serving on the Education Committee, I've been hearing lots of testimony from those parents in rural Nebraska that because of changes of losing funding, they may be forced to send their children to...or should I say, travel 50, 70 miles to a school. And so then I'm wondering, is this really equity? I really support keeping this income tax rebate as Senator Wickersham's amendment does. And I just feel that capping, usually when we are looking at formulas, how often do we really just cap it at a straight amount instead of looking at percentages. I do have a question for Senator Bohlke.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes.

SENATOR STUHR: I don't think we've actually talked about how is the income tax rebate calculated?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Well, currently it's 20 percent...

SENATOR STUHR: Right.

SENATOR BOHLKE: ...goes back to the district.

SENATOR STUHR: I mean it's just from...I mean, explain that a little bit more so maybe some of the other members (inaudible).

SENATOR BOHLKE: Twenty percent of the district...the total of the district's income tax that they pay goes back.

SENATOR STUHR: All right. And when the formula was conceived that that was the amount, that's what they considered as to be a fair amount.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Well, probably some people thought no, that wouldn't be a fair amount. There was probably a great debate on that. The 20 percent is the percentage they arrived at that time.

SENATOR STUHR: Okay. With this money, if it is capped at 83 million, where would you say that the largest amount of that money will go? Will it go to rural schools in outstate Nebraska, or...