

February 14, 1996 LB 1050

SENATOR BEUTLER: My proposal, as it's currently structured, dealt only with Lincoln and Omaha and the relationship between the two.

SENATOR BROMM: And what does it do? Does it put them into one tier, or does it put Lincoln in the same tier as Omaha, or what does it do?

SENATOR BEUTLER: It doesn't...it doesn't change the tiers, but it changes the relationship in terms of the calculation of costs as between the tiers. And it's a...it further complicates the formula. I don't know quite how to explain it in easy terms.

SENATOR BROMM: Okay, okay.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I do think the point is well taken about a consideration of the tier system and the meaning of the tiers. And, in fact, Senator Bohlke, the Chair of our committee, has identified that as something that she wants to take on. So I'm sure the Education Committee probably the next big thing will be the consideration of the tier system and what that means and what it...

SENATOR BROMM: Okay.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...and whether it has a basis in fact.

SENATOR BROMM: Okay. Thank you, Senator Beutler. And I...you know this is...this is so interrelated, I think. You talk about...you talk about the tier system, how you compute the cost, the income tax rebate. You push one button and three more are affected. And so what concerns me a great deal about proceeding with the amendment regarding the income tax rebate or the fact that I don't really know and understand how this is going to affect us for sure. Some of the proponents make a good philosophical argument that makes sense about equalized resources for kids. But then when I look at...when I get down to looking at what Senator Stuhr was talking about, and if you want to measure opportunities for kids by programs and facilities and opportunities, and you look at the mill levy that people on the local level are paying to support the programs that they do have, there's something that rings a little bit...a little bit (interrupted)...