

February 15, 1996 LB 1050

know how many people they've hired. Of course I know they got the guy that used to work for the State Department of Education that had to do with all this state aid stuff. But...but you know I was just thinking, the other day the Activities Association voted to have all the football playoffs in Lincoln. Everything is in Lincoln! Now there's no sales tax. No one goes to a little town for a football championship. I remember in '88, we had 4 or 5 thousand people up in Blair for a state playoff, but not anymore. The money comes to Lincoln. Football games, how much money they spend? Oh man,.... The reason Lincoln's such a fix, they don't tax anything down here. No real estate taxes, no real estate taxes paid in Lincoln, everything, you know, it's government, it's not paid for. You go out in the rural areas and it's paid for, I'll tell you that, paid right through the nose, it's paid right through the nose. But you people... Senator Bohlke, I wish you'd listen. Maybe what we ought to do, maybe what we should do is take all this sales tax, for example, Lincoln gets...let's see, Lincoln gets, in '94 they'll get \$31 million worth of sales tax. That's above and beyond what we pay the state. Maybe they ought to give the Lincoln schools some money. You ever think about that? Omaha gets 63 million. Who's complaining the most about state aid? Lincoln.

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Maybe they have the right to do that, I'm not saying. Omaha, Millard, and I don't know about Hastings. Does Hastings have a...yeah, Hastings gets 2 million. Ardyce, you'd give them a million bucks. Ardyce, excuse me, ma'am. Excuse me. Ardyce. Anyway, there's a lot of issues out here. But we're going to...we're going to freeze that and put it all over in equalization. Senator Wesely had a bill, I talked about, not a bad bill. Now Cap Dierks, if he heard me say that he'd probably have a heart attack, but maybe that's what we should do. Take it back to the people and say, we're going to reorganize schools in the next five years. And another question, how large should schools be? I've got several schools that are around 1,100, and they're good schools, couple of them are six miles apart. Are we going to say, you two schools get together?

SENATOR CROSBY: Time.