

student, they would receive more assistance. So it helps those that have a more difficult problem generating resources from their property tax base.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: You're welcome.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I'd rise to oppose the amendment. As others have stated, I appreciate the problem that Senator Maurstad is attempting to address. And at some point, perhaps, we can develop a program that assists local school districts with capital construction. But I see little point in attempting to expand a program for state support when we are at a point where we're not even funding the minimum or the maximum level or the minimum level that we're supposed to be at. And to further spread limited dollars to do more than what we already are able to accomplish does not seem to me appropriate at this time. If it was a time in which we were adding substantially more money from some source of funds, why, one might look at it differently. But even then I think there are major concerns that need to be looked at once we start assisting with capital construction because of the vast differences between available facilities around the state and the reasons for each of those individual districts to have poor facilities or not could be...many times it would be a choice they could have made locally. But, in any event, it would seem the wrong time now to expand those available programs with the limited dollars that we have in state aid that are already inadequate.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Vrtiska, on the Maurstad amendment.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Maurstad, I'd like to ask you a question, if I could.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Yes, sir, Senator.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Maurstad, will you respond.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Yes, ma'am.