

SENATOR VRTISKA: Looking at today's paper, I notice a rally is being held down there at Beatrice again to build a new school. And there seemed to be a lot of support. In fact what you're...I want you to clarify this for me. In fact what you're trying to do is get some extra funds for, not only your school, but many schools to do construction, is that correct?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: It would do two things, Senator. First of all, immediately it would provide assistance to those school districts that currently have bonded indebtedness. In addition to that, those that choose to improve their facilities and are able to pass bond issues in the future would have the ability for state assistance in those circumstances also.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Okay.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: So it really does both of those.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I understand that. I guess my purpose, and I have to tell you that I'm going to oppose your amendment, basically because many school districts have gone ahead and voted, and some of them have their bonds paid out. So they're the ones that are left paying their own bills. But you're saying that the rest...they ought to then chip in and help those districts who decide now to do construction and don't want to pay the full bill themselves. And somehow that doesn't seem to be quite fair to those who have in fact gone ahead and passed bond issues and are...particularly if they're paid off. I sympathize, because I take the Beatrice paper and I understand it's been a real issue there as well as in Falls City to try to get some new facilities. And certainly I don't think anybody that understands your situation could disagree that something needs to be done to get some new facilities down there. But I guess I'm a little bit concerned about trying to get money out of the distribution formula for the purpose of, at this time, at this particular time, helping out those that have not been able to do it themselves. I know that many of the school districts I represent would be somewhat upset because some of them have already built schools, and many of them, their bonds are paid off, and now they're saying, well, we'll go ahead and help out...I'm not talking necessarily about your school district, but any school district who in fact has a bonded indebtedness or who is contemplating. I see where Diller and Odell are talking