

about new schools,...

SENATOR MAURSTAD: That's correct.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...putting up bond issues. This would also come in and assist them. But at the same time it puts the burden on the backs of the rest of the people across the state who, in fact, have gone ahead and, through their own actions, financed their own projects. And as I said, I certainly have sympathy. And I know that Beatrice School District certainly is entitled to have better facilities than some of the facilities that you have down there. But I'm a little bit leery about trying to take off the funds that are needed for some of the other school districts to continue their curriculums and not be shorted in the amount of money that they receive. So, given that circumstance, I'll not be able to support your amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Maurstad, your light is next.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Madam President. Just a couple of comments and just to illustrate how this would work if it became law. The Blair School District, for example, would receive, under the data from '93-94, \$86,433 if this...to help retire a portion of their current bonded indebtedness. In addition, Beatrice right now would not get a penny. And so let me clear something up, first of all, just for the members. Beatrice doesn't need nor does it deserve your sympathy relative to our facility concerns. I agree. If the taxpayers and the patrons and the citizens of School District 15 are unwilling to step forward and finance school facilities, that's their concern and their problem and they're going to have to learn to deal with it. So I want to make it clear if this becomes law, Beatrice gets nothing, initially. The only time Beatrice would get anything, and they would only get a portion of what their annual bond payment would be, is if they are in fact successful in the future. Now I do believe that this would provide some incentives, not only for school districts in my district, but school districts all across the state to invest in themselves with some assistance. It gets back to the whole equalization concept. Those that have made the decision to improve their facilities would benefit under this amendment. Those that have improved their facilities and have paid off those...that