

indebtedness are, at some point in time in the next couple of years, if they do in fact have good planning processes, will be improving their schools, renovating, improving their schools again in the future, and then, therefore, would have available access to this fund also. And so I do believe that this would apply to and provide opportunity for all the school districts, and it is not...and make clear, it is not designed to benefit any one particular school district. Of course, I, like Senator Byars, in bringing the issue before, because it is a concern in my district. And I think we always, and all of us bring legitimate concerns of the people in our district to the Legislature to address, deliberate, and determine whether or not they are appropriate public policy or not. So I want to emphasize again that, you know, there's over 100 school districts that would immediately receive some benefit, if this amendment were adopted. And Senator Bohlke, the chairman of the committee, is accurate. We have visited about this. I do understand and respect her judgment and her opinion relative to this amendment. And so...I mean that...I appreciate her expressing her viewpoint on this situation. Even after the 10 percent is eliminated...or is reduced and used for school facilities, there still would be more dollars in the income tax rebate, I believe, and I'm sure she will correct me if I'm wrong, that there still will be more dollars in the income tax rebate formula left than what was originally in LB 1050 at the beginning of the process. So I still think that it is certainly within...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: ...the intent and within the scope of the...what LB 1050 is trying to address. I believe we have an opportunity to look at a situation and rectify a situation that Nebraska has ignored for a number of years. Many states across the country have realized that this needs to be a part of the equalization process, and that facilities and the way school districts respond to facilities cannot just be totally neglected by the state when it determines how the aid is going to be distributed. So, once again, I would just urge your consideration and look forward to further questions if there.... (Microphone turned off.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Maurstad. Senator Bromm.