

district I think understands, well, I don't think, they do understand that in the long term, by putting more money into equalization, that that...particularly on the income tax rebate side, that the more money that they are able to put into equalization the larger that pool is going to grow, so we can even get to the goal to 45 percent funding that we are trying to get to when we passed 1059 a few years ago. And they know in the long term that the more that equalization pool grows the better off the poorer school districts, "valuewise", will be and so they're willing right now to take the hit in the short term. They recognize that they need to be competitive to bring students in and more students leave for various reasons, not...it's not certainly the value of education there, but there are just different reasons they go. But they understand the long-term gains in equalization. And that will be the same as in Senator Robinson's district. There will be schools that lose under the current scenario in the short term, but if they are an equalization district, i.e., a poor land value behind their students and they need help from the state so that they can at least be competitive and have an opportunity to be up to the level that the other school districts are, they may choose not to, but at least they have the opportunity to do so, they understand that in the long term 1050, as it now is, is the best policy, even though they take a hit in the short term. What Senator Wickersham's amendment does is it takes some of the dollars out of the equalization, which is contrary to those school districts who understand the long-term policy. They understand that the more dollars that go in there the better off they're going to be. They don't want the pool to lessen, because they understand that LB 1145 that Senator Withem and others, including myself, that what we had out there put even more equalization dollars into the pot rather than the way that 1050 is now. So they look at their long-term loss already as being diminished with the actions taken previously on 1050, but they're still willing to go along with that. The other thing I want to remind senators is you cannot anymore.... Senator Abboud is absolutely right in one analogy. The others I disagreed with, but that's...on education we just have a different perspective from time to time. But he's absolutely right, we cannot keep separate what we may do on the property tax side...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.