

doing. It has fallen to the level of the sandbox and the elementary school playground. Vindictiveness, fixing people and abdicating our responsibility. I feel a great temptation to punish these little racist towns, but that's not what I'm here for. So I hope you will vote in favor of this bracket motion. Give yourself time to think again.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator. Senator Fisher. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate now cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Debate is ceased. Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on your motion to bracket.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I personally believe that I am the most realistic, empiricist on this floor, but there's another part of me that is not that way and I want to see us do better than what I know we're going to do. There will be no rational changes made in this bill. Punishment is going to be allocated to everybody except the big cities. The big dogs don't have to worry about anything; the underdogs, the little dogs do. Senator Maurstad, if you were speaking on behalf of a mastiff like Omaha or a pit bull like Lincoln then you might could get somewhere, but you're down there with the little Pomeranians, the toy poodles, the...all those little bitty dogs that people have just for show purposes, so you'll get nothing. Nobody's going to be able to have a rational amendment adopted, and by that I mean one that addresses the situation faced by these subdivisions. You all want to fix 'em all, and that's what you're going to do. But I think the laugh, ultimately, will be on you. I think this is going to backfire and I believe you will have egg on your face and nobody's going to want to take responsibility. Everybody will say, well, they were circulating petitions, they wanted this bill, they said we had to do it this way. "They," meaning the people that we are supposed to be representing, don't realize what will happen if you reduce property taxes, so we're going to put a lid on it. We're going to say this is all the money that can be raised, now like it or lump it. And then to sit here and think or pretend that you believe people are voluntarily going to be informed enough to vote to raise their taxes is not reasonable. I'm going to speak in the terms of