

instead of trying to have school districts around this state exemplifying and following these schools' lead by providing high quality education to our students, we're saying...we're singling out these two schools and saying, we know you've done an outstanding job in the past, we have honored you with resolutions, we know you've been honored by outside forces, by Department of Education, by magazines, by other individuals outside the state, but we choose instead to make your system a less quality system. There was also a handout that was offered by Senator Bromm that talks about, it was an editorial from the Omaha World-Herald that talks about the promise that was broken by this Legislature by the passage of LB 1050 and my belief is that this is a broken promise; that promises were made when we passed LB 1059. Senator Hoagland was representing the...part of the Westside School system at that time. Arrangements were made, accommodations were made. A vote of the people took place to further cement this promise and I feel that that promise is being broken. Now, as we all know, one Legislature certainly does not bind the next, but it's my belief that when you make a deal, you make a promise, you should follow through on that promise and it's my belief that, at least in this particular case with LB 1050, we're clearly breaking that promise of continuing on with that funding level that at the level in which that school has been accustomed to. Now who is really going to be hurt by this? Well, with the passage of this bill I originally thought that the people that would be hurt would be the property taxpayers because the school district, in trying to keep the quality of that educational institution up, they would, of course, increase those property taxes to the current level, so that 1.8 million dollars that they're going to be losing as a result of 1050 I assumed would be raised property taxes and the residents of the Westside School District and the Ralston School District would just see their property taxes go up and the people that would suffer would be the property taxpayers, but the educational quality would remain the same. But, with the eventual passage of the 2 percent lid, then the people that will suffer will be the students and the teachers that will have to be discharged. They'll have to lose their employment. My concern is with those students because they're going to have larger classroom space, they're going to have less quality, classes will have to be dropped and the standard of excellence that these two schools have shown to this state and this nation will drop. I don't see how anyone can remotely call this a proeducation piece of legislation when it clearly hurts the