

there should be some equity in the formula and why should we continue to fund that. But the most important thing is that I think we need to remember that with the adoption of 1050, 92 percent of the children, Senator Abboud, 92 percent of the children will receive a benefit because they are...will be in equalized schools and we will put more money into the equalization formula. And so when you look at the overall ramifications of this, I think 92 percent is a fairly high percentage of the children who will receive more funding through the equalization formula. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Matzke announces that the following guests are visiting the Legislature: there are 32 Girl Scouts here from Guiding Star Girl Scout Council in Ogallala, Nebraska, and their event directors. They are all in the north balcony. Will you stand to be recognized, please. Welcome to the Nebraska Legislature. Senator Beutler, your light is next. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Thank you, Madam President. And I appreciate Senator Bohlke's kind words. I have a little bit different perspective on how I see the money being paid out and the reason I look at that is that we have to look at what this money will actually be doing. Now, I told you what it's going to do, the lack of money, in the Ralston Public School system, what will happen. I told you what's going to happen in the Westside School District--teachers being fired, students suffering. But let's look at the flip side. Let's look...this number's been bandied around, this 92 percent here, and if you look at the numbers, the amount of money that some of these school districts are going to be getting, and I'm going to use the printouts that are provided by...printouts that have been provided by Senator Bohlke and the committee and I believe OPS had a number in the neighborhood of about 300,000 for the coming fiscal year. Now, you have such a large amount of students in the OPS System. I believe around 40...45,000 or so, 46,000 students in OPS. Does that sound about right, Senator Pirsch? And that is such a minuscule amount of money that's going to be funneled into that school. I mean, what do you suppose they'll do with all that money? I mean, are they going to go out and build a new school? No. They going to increase teachers' salaries? Probably not. It will probably go towards probably heating one of their buildings or some of the buildings around the school. The amount of money that's going to be given to some of these