

Nebraska. But according to the Supreme Court, it can be done. It is the tool to be utilized for a variety of objectives. In fact, next year, I may ask you to utilize it in the context of the community colleges for an objective that isn't unlike I think of the objective of Senator Withem and others who have supported that in the context of the Class Is and Class VI schools. Doesn't necessarily make me happy to pursue that kind of an objective because I will say, again, that I think it represents bad policy from a number of standpoints. One, it does, indeed, cause people who are outside of the district in which the taxes are levied to pay taxes, and, in addition, I think it will actually encourage spending in districts. Now, conceivably, we are going to be taking care of some of that with LB 1114 and LB 299, but with the room that will be left for the schools, I think there will be a fight to the top to see who can spend the most and see who can have their spending subsidized by their neighbors. I think that is the real rooted evil, if you will, in the common levy. I understand the compromise that Senator Jones has reached. I will concur in his compromise because he represents a district that is the most heavily impacted by the common levy. Certainly, there are schools in the 49th Legislative District that are also affected, but it isn't as great an impact as it is in Senator Jones' District, so I will defer to his judgment in this matter and follow his lead, despite the fact that I think that what we are about to do or I speculate that we are about to do here today does not go nearly far enough in solving what I think the problems are arising from the common levy. And whether or not we replace the common levy at some later date with another formula and it has some sparsity factor in it, I guess that remains to be seen. As a matter of fact, I am of the view that if we adopt 1114, as it appears we will, that in a couple of years we will have a radically different school aid formula. I don't know what that's going to look like. I'm extremely apprehensive, however, that that formula will not recognize all of the legitimate differences we have. I'm somewhat encouraged by the discussion about a sparsity factor, and maybe some recognition...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: ...that we cannot have schools, Senator Wesely, that are all 600 pupils in size, and that we do have to recognize that there are differences and to provide in an equitable way for those differences. I only hope that we