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SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. Sometimes debates take a turn and you just can't quite figure out what's going on. And I'm a little bit at that point, both with remarks that Senator Raikes made and that Senator Chambers has made. Senator Raikes claims that somehow this bill is disequalizing. That's kind of a dirty word in the context of state aid. Disequalization is a dirty word. Well, that isn't what this bill is about. If you recall, on General File, we started that discussion, and Senator Raikes admitted that the property tax levy limits are also disequalizing, under his analysis. He's not in favor of undoing the property tax limitations. And then I think I heard Senator Raikes also say that he supported the concepts in the bill, although he wants to be at 47 percent as opposed to 45 percent. I don't understand the discussion about disequalization, it doesn't matter in the context of this bill, from my estimation. All of the aid that goes out through the formula is equalized aid; it doesn't increase aid, or doesn't provide aid to any disequal...unequal school (laugh), and I am continually perplexed by Senator Raikes' assertion that somehow this is disequalization. And I know I have now "incented" him to turn on his light at least three more times and try to explain that to me or to you, if you are as confused as I am. Senator Chambers asserts that somehow this is a bill that benefits rural areas as opposed to urban areas because it will reduce property taxes in support of K-12 schools. That is also kind of a befuddling issue to me, because, by far and away, by far and away, the largest proportions of state aid to schools go to urban districts. Just look at your last printout. Check the amount of money that went to Omaha. Check the amount of money that went to Lincoln. Check the amount of money that went to Grand Island and the other urban districts. By far and away, state aid goes to urban school systems; that's the way the formula works; that's where there is a more limited tax base per student; that's the way the formula works, that's the way the formula would continue to work. And in fact I would think that Senator Chambers would be supporting this bill because it will actually work to help people in his district. Senator Chambers has always asserted that he represents persons with low or fixed incomes. This bill will help them. If they pay property taxes, and from the circumstances that he describes them to be in, they would infrequently pay income taxes, and maybe a limited amount of sales taxes, this bill over time would reduce their property