

June 2, 1993

LB 8.3

consolidation that split the state part year after year after year. All this amendment does is seek to add that compromise on over to the Class VIs.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR WITHEM: Class VIs continue to exist. I heard the other day when we were talking about school reform, I heard from somebody in the Department of Education glowing recommendations for what's being done in Grand Island Northwest, superb school; and nothing that's being done here is going to change one iota the education that takes place in Grand Island Northwest High School. It will just change for a fairer method how taxes are paid, how they're assessed and collected against people that use that high school. To argue that this is a good system would say that those people that live in Omaha that are in Senator Will's district ought to have a different levy supporting their elementary school than those that happen to have the Westroads in their district. It's a unified school system. A Class VI is a unified school system. We are not changing that. We're not changing how they operate structurally. We're just saying they ought to have a fairer method...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR WITHEM: ...of assessing taxes. I think it's a good proposal and I'd urge you to support it.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Jones.

SENATOR JONES: Madam President, members of this body, I just want to stand in opposition of this amendment being brought back because it'd affect my area really big. And to give you a little example, I've got 77 Class I schools and I got 7 Class VIs in my district alone. And, Senator Withem, would you yield to a question, please?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes.

SENATOR JONES: How does this affect state aid out in my district? How many dollars and cents would be going out of my district with this?

SENATOR WITHEM: I do not know how many dollars and cents would be out of your district. I can give you a general answer. It