

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

May 5, 1999

LB 44

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. I'm trying to follow your logic here because we have had a lot of debate on the floor here about lottery funds, and those are designated to the schools as well as to the environment. And I know that you have steadfastly opposed that designation even though we have established that in the state. And you and I share very similar agreement or perspectives on the lottery, but you always oppose a bill if it gives money to schools from lottery funds because you believe that the lottery is wrong, and if you believe that this confiscation rule is wrong why would you not follow the same logic and say that should also not go to schools?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Redfield, the lottery is an activity that the state underwrites and encourages people to participate in and the activity itself is harmful in my view.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So, to justify doing that, they say, well, we'll give some of the money to the schools, the end justifies the means. In this instance, when fines and penalties are exacted under the law, they...that is in the form of money and it has to go someplace. Many, many years ago it was determined that because education fulfills the role of teaching people to be good citizens, those fines and forfeitures, from whatever kind of improper activity, should go to support the schools because their aim is to teach people the kind of things that might prevent that kind of conduct from occurring in the first place. Now, whether or not that's true is beside the point. That was the rationale that originally...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...led to this kind of money, the fines and so forth, going to support the common schools.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you. I know that Senator Chambers is very opposed to drug activity. I know that he realizes the impact upon his community, as well as communities throughout the state of Nebraska. And I know that...that there is agreement on the floor of this body that we want to do everything we can to prevent drug problems, so I think what we have to come to here