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April 17, 2001 LB 833

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Bromm.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Bromm, these schools that have stirred themselves awake now and want to participate in this program had the same opportunity that schools which currently are active had a couple of years ago to participate, didn't they?

SENATOR BROMM: I assume so, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, as I look at the map, I see others on here with a symbol next to them which indicates they have no interest at this time. So there's a possibility that in 2002 we could have those schools waking up and saying, extend this opportunity for two more years so that we can get on board. Is that a possibility?

SENATOR BROMM: It is. They have been told about this and so they've had an opportunity, but you're right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Because those who are seeking 30...I meant LB 833 now, have also been told about it at the beginning and chose not to, at that time, get involved.

SENATOR BROMM: Correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Members of the Legislature, I think this probably may be an ongoing activity. I don't like gambling. I certainly don't want the state involved. But I also have to be practical and consider what the actual state of affairs is at this time. There is money in a pot somewhere, now I don't know if it's in...that...hidden in that old television set that Senator Vrtiska wore us out with talking about last session. (Laugh) Oh, he signals that it's not, so that's probably exactly where it is. But this lottery money is somewhere. Senator Kristensen raised the issue of what you going to do about the teachers, and that is a question that is on a lot of people's minds. Inquiring minds want to know, and I have already decreed that there's not going to be a sales tax increase. I just love to assert this much power and