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FLOOR DEBATE

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issue, as a funding source for LB 305, but the point is I think it's probably time after eight, I'm not sure, eight or ten years, that we ought to be considering that and...but those schools that need this, and there are several with...with the stars, I am committed I think to go ahead and do this at this point. Thank you.

**PRESIDENT MAURSTAD:** Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Chambers, on the committee amendments.

**SENATOR CHAMBERS:** Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I just looked at this map that was put on our table and, at first, I thought it was a map that some staff members got around here for redistricting the Legislature, and I was going to say not only did they get the number of districts wrong, they didn't even draw lines to show us what the present districts are. But then it was called to my attention that this map is for a different purpose; it has a relationship to LB 833. I listened very well to what Senator Wehrbein said and I'm not going to stand in opposition to this bill. All that I'm suggesting is that those who are heated up to give teachers a salary increase, you better think of every way that you can find that money because you're not going to get it from the sales tax if I have anything to say about it. I haven't heard any other propositions floated for the state assuming a responsibility that really belongs to the local school districts. If the state's...if the state is going to pay the cost, I think the state should exercise control. The state should not spend money for that which it does not control. And I know there are senators who will say, in their individual districts, school boards, teachers, others want to hold on to local control because that means so much in Nebraska. That's a chimera. That's a red herring. It has never been true in this state. All it is, is a slogan. These locales have always come to the state with a tin cup or their hat in their hand saying, gimme, gimme, gimme. If I come from an area where the tax take is not great, then I want to tap into the northeastern part...well, the south...well, the central...central eastern part (laugh) of the state, right around there where Omaha, Lincoln and Sarpy County are. Gimme that money. Here they come begging, wanting the money, and then when the state wants to set some standard they