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LB 543

Everybody working for money wants more money. Senator Beutler was trying to get some protection for workers under these programs that give these corporations a whole lot of money,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and that bill, that motion, that amendment was voted down overwhelmingly. And now we want to give more money to people just because they say they're teachers and they'll go someplace else if you don't give them more money. Where are they going to go, these who qualify as worse? And if they go someplace else they're not going to last, and they'll come trucking back to Nebraska because other cities may not want to keep them. So you would rather pay more money to people not doing their job and make...and let that make you think that you've solved the problem. You just have to find it in you to make the proper decision, even though some people are going to be upset by it.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Raikes, on the motion to return LB 543 to Select File for specific amendment.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I would support Senator Chambers' motion to return and I'll give you my reasons, not that I've come up with new ones. We've talked about this before, but I'll emphasize them in case they're different than what you've heard already. One, I think Senator Chambers is...has already emphasized the fact that this funding would go to individuals in the form of a loan, individual students, in this case; not through school systems. Our common way for funding public school systems in Nebraska is through the school systems. And, as a result of that, this program would also fund students or, yes, students who eventually became teachers in private and parochial school systems. And as important as I think that the private and parochial school systems are to this state, I also think it is exceedingly important for their success that they remain financially independent. I worry about the precedent breaking done in this loan forgiveness program. But maybe more important is the fact that at the time this was put into statute in...last year, or