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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 305

half for the teacher upon certification. Just...I just want to make that clear. I have nothing else right now, Mr. President. I'll listen eagerly to the rest of the debate. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Maxwell. Senator Redfield on the Suttle amendment.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members of the body. I would like to ask Senator Maxwell some questions.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Maxwell, will you yield to a question, please?

SENATOR MAXWELL: Yes.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Senator Maxwell, as I read the amendment, it is \$2,500 a year. Correct?

SENATOR MAXWELL: Correct.

SENATOR REDFIELD: And Senator Maxwell, how many years would they be able to collect this?

SENATOR MAXWELL: My understanding is that with the credentialing organization that the state works with right now, you qualify for ten years.

SENATOR REDFIELD: That's my understanding as well. So in fact ten years, at \$2,500, this could be worth \$25,000 to each teacher who qualifies for this program. Correct?

SENATOR MAXWELL: Correct.

SENATOR REDFIELD: I am going to vote no on the amendment, because I do think that \$25,000 is certainly something that the teachers who have worked hard to earn this certification would be pleased to have. And I know that we already have teachers in the state of Nebraska who have earned this certification, and this would be a wonderful bonus to give them for something that was above and beyond the call of duty. So I would like to ask everyone to continue to support the master teacher program and