

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

April 2, 2004

LB 1091

school systems to a level lower than what they would otherwise be, in this case the result of reorganized systems versus nonreorganized systems, then that reduces the base for our needs calculations, which drives the state aid formula. So to the extent that you do something that reduces by a percentage the General Fund operating expenses for students in our public schools, you reduce needs and you reduce the financial impact on the state General Fund.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That's a good economist demonstration, right? On one hand, if you take less...if you give more on one hand, you need less on the left, on the other hand, and that's what you're implying here. If we give some reorganization money, reduce the need; therefore, it shouldn't show up in the TEEOSA aid.

SENATOR RAIKES: That's true.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: But we still have the out year problem and I think...I just want the body and us to be aware that we...this...if it really works magically or really works successfully, we could have an increased demand and you're, I suppose, somewhat hopeful and perhaps optimistic that the Educational Trust Fund would stand that. But it still could be an issue in two or three years hence.

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes, it could. Yes, it could.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I...just laying it on the table. Thank you.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein and Senator Raikes. Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members, I wondered if Senator Raikes would yield to a couple more questions about the long-term impact. Basically, I support this, but I'm just trying to get a handle on the scope of what we're going to be proposing in the second year. Do you have any idea of the...if everybody did it, what the potential impact is? Do we have that figure?