

SENATOR LAMB: Okay, if there is a question, we would certainly be happy to do that.

SENATOR MOORE: Because I can see some merit in this actual amendment for the problem that Senator Lamb has mentioned as far as budgeting, as far as some people making irrational decisions or whatever. For whatever reason, they decide to transfer to a district, they decide they didn't like it, maybe at the very least maybe they should have to stick with it to some degree. I probably will support Senator Lamb's amendment this time around, and maybe we need to work on it some more on Select File, if it actually would get to have a chance to be added to it. The problem I've had with Senator Lamb and Senator Dierks actually fighting this bill, I am almost disappointed to some degree that a good many of the small schools in the State of Nebraska are the ones that are opposed to this bill. My first two years in the Legislature, I have tried to do what I can and when I can to have the opportunity to speak up and say, our small, primarily, high schools in the State of Nebraska are offering a good education. I graduated from a class of 10 people myself. That was one of the best educational opportunities I could have. The problem is that now when a time...now comes a time for small schools in the state to put their money where their mouth is, so to speak, saying that, hey, our schools are good, but don't give me any competition so maybe they go someplace else. I am disappointed in that because the last two years I have tried to say we are doing a good job. Now that they put our feet to the fire, we are running scared. I think instead of trying to fight this bill, we should work on amendments like Senator Lamb has offered here that actually make some good changes to the bill, some good changes to the concept to make it more livable, and at the same time, the small schools that I tend to represent, we have the opportunity to put our money where our mouth is, and if, indeed, those small schools are good schools, they are going to have no problems with this bill in actuality I think they are actually going to be helped out in the end. But think this amendment by Senator Lamb deserves some attention. I am not totally comfortable with the way it is written, but for the time being, let's vote on this amendment to see if the concept of making people stick with their decision has any merit in this body.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, please, then Senator Baack.