

organization." To the best of my knowledge, there is no group of employees supported by tax money in the state that allows direct deductions for support of a professional organization, no other organization. They all voluntarily write a check from their own funds to support professional organizations. I would suggest that this is only fair for teachers as it is for every other employee supported by Nebraska taxes. I would ask your support to adopt this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Ashford, please.

SENATOR ASHFORD: I would challenge the germaneness of that amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Would you like to discuss it, Senator Ashford, while I...

SENATOR ASHFORD: Well, this is a matter that has absolutely nothing to do with the bill. We are talking about a totally separate, distinct issue that should be discussed in committee, and it is not in the same subject matter, and is really...should not be discussed at this point on this bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Owen Elmer, would you like to discuss this?

SENATOR ELMER: Certainly. On page 3 of LB 89, lines, starting with line 18, this deals directly with compensation. It says, "Regular compensation shall mean the annual salary specified in a teacher's contract, not including pay earned for performance of noninstructional duties or the employer's share of retirement benefits." And this would just add, "No deduction may be made by a school district from a teacher's wages..." which is directly related to the compensation we are talking about in this...on this page, and the balance of the amendment adds Section 14, and says that Sections 79-12,101 to 79-12,103 would be repealed, which is exactly what the language would do. And I would say, since it deals directly with the compensation of the teachers as referred to in this new section of law that would be established, that it is germane, so I would ask the Chair to that...in that manner. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Does anyone else that has their lights on wish to discuss this matter? I have several lights. Senator Smith.