

SENATOR LYNCH: May or may not, depends upon how the school district spends that money that...from Phase II.

SENATOR HEFNER: Well, if it doesn't, well, then it's going to put another burden on the local school district which could raise property taxes.

PRESIDENT: Time has expired. Thank you. Senator Moore, please.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker and members, with the adoption of my amendment we've significantly changed...our intent was simply change what we have to do with this bill. We said that the State of Nebraska is not going to negotiate salaries over and above what a local board does. With our vote we maintain local control in this state. Now we are going to have a long way to go before we decide on...if we're going to increase money for education, if we're going to spend money through state aid or foundation and equalization, or basically what you have now, or what our intent was, I think what we have according to...the Education Committee counsel drafted that amendment for me. The way the bill reads now, a school board would get this money. They would set the salary. Let's just say for an example, prior to this bill a school board would give a 5 percent salary increase. In its original form, for example, the state would have given a 2 percent increase over and above the 5 percent increase. The state would have been separate. With the amendment that we adopted we're saying that the school board, you will get that 2 percent money and then use that, you're setting the salary, whether it would be 4, 5, or 7 percent, but a school board makes the decision. It's no longer separate, it's no longer over and above what a school board does. And whatever dollar figure we plug into this bill, in essence, now we've got a different state aid distribution formula and the money will go, in the way the bill reads, the money will go for teachers' salaries and so that actual money, that actual \$40 million will be distributed out among the state and if we spend a billion dollars in education, that \$40 million has to go to teachers' salaries, but it all works in with the billion dollars that local school boards spent, so it is not over and above, and the state is not separate in over and above what a local school board does. We maintain local control. We sit here today with that vote, and now if we pass the bill, which I...there are still some things we've got to work on on the bill, when you pass the bill, you have it in a form, you're not