

March 16, 1989

LB 89

SENATOR HARTNETT: Wait, excuse me, Senator Korshoj wants a minute.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Korshoj.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Mr. Speaker and members, Dan, I would like to ask you a question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lynch, would you respond to a question, please?

SENATOR KORSHOJ: You say we're premature in finding the funding for this, that we can wait till possibly Final Reading. Then if we do raise the money then, it would just go into the General Fund, wouldn't it? It wouldn't be designated.

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes...

SENATOR KORSHOJ: So it would have no continuation.

SENATOR LYNCH: To answer your question, the amendment that Senator Withem offers provides a fund out of which this money would be earmarked for teachers' salaries back to school districts, so I like that part of it. But, on the other hand, we do spend quite a bit of money out of the General Fund for already earmarked school aid programs. My concern, Senator Korshoj, was that why just don't we consider this independent from everything else, that's what I said when we first started, so that we can simply set our priorities and then at that time determine if we have to raise a tax, a number of proposals, Senator Moore has one, I'm using your time, I'm sorry.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: No, go ahead.

SENATOR LYNCH: One more minute? Senator Lamb right next to me has a proposal to raise taxes, sales taxes to pay back 10 percent of your property taxes, et cetera. There is all kinds of tax measures out there already. I think we have to have this in the bill, but I would hope that we would not support including Senator Schmit's motion to provide a tax in the bill because I think it's premature for that reason, plus I won't take your time. I'll put my light on, but I have a statement here that indicates that at this time, depending on your priorities, we've got the money. We don't need to raise taxes to do this.