

March 22, 1989

LB 89

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, through the Foundation and Equalization formulas.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: They did...so, in other words, it wouldn't have to go for teachers' salaries?

SENATOR MOORE: No.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: I guess that's all at this time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Okay, Mr. Clerk, you have an amendment to the amendment.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Yes, Mr. President. Senator Ashford would move to amend the Moore amendment to provide that 80 percent of the \$20 million must go to teachers' salaries. (The Ashford amendment appears on page 1295 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Ashford, please.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Mr. President and members, the amendment somewhat speaks for itself. It goes along with what I had said earlier in my earlier remarks on this bill that the need here is to, I think...and it's been demonstrated, at least to my satisfaction, that the money that is...that we decide whether it be 20 million or 40 million that it ought to go to teachers' salaries. I would like to see this amendment pass, the 80 percent figure, and then take some time between now and Select File to figure out an adequate formula to make sure that it's apportioned in an appropriate way and also to discuss a little bit the number, whether it be 20, 30 or 40 million. But I believe that the need, at least to my satisfaction in looking at this bill and why I co-sponsored LB 89, was that we...the quality of education starts in the classroom. The teachers in Nebraska are underpaid across the state and I think if we're going to fund education, I thought possibly that LB...one of the other reasons I co-sponsored LB 89 is I thought possibly that it would become the state aid to education bill that we would be dealing with this year anyway. So, with that, I think that again the quality of education is in the classroom. I think that the NSEA and others and the school board members I have talked to have demonstrated to me that there is a need to fund these teachers' salaries with state aid, so I would like to see, at least in my analysis of this, that about approximately