

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. President and members of the body, Senator Ashford's amendment is really, I don't know if actually the verbiage is going to be correct here but I think a lot of us and myself included have went out to our teachers and said, now wait a second, I'm not against teachers' salary increases, I just don't like LB 89 because it is void of local control, for one; it has the state mandating a minimum salary, for two; and it's a formula that totally deviates from what we have always done in this state. And I have always said I would rather...which, to me, is a change of policy, quite directly, because I have always been not a big fan of Foundation and Equalization aid because I don't like the way it's distributed, but I guess I have been convinced we need to spend more money and we need to spend more money on teachers' salaries. And teachers always say, well, wait a second, if you put more money into state aid, we're never going to see it. You know, right or wrong, I disagree with that because I think you can, obviously, track how much money is coming there and some things I passed out last week, school boards haven't been the mongers that some people will have you believe they have been. They have been trying to...they have been trying to move ahead but they simply haven't had the money to do so. And sometimes, as Senator Morrissey knows as a former school member, that there are some cases where they just didn't want to, there's no doubt about it. But, nevertheless, I like the spirit of Senator Ashford's amendment, it's saying that this money, this \$20 million of state aid, 16 million of it really has to go for teachers' salaries. I don't know, I have some questions of whether or not Senator Ashford's amendment will actually be worded correctly but I like the intent of it, because I would like to see that money say...we know that money is going to go for teachers' salaries out there and it's going to go out there and be distributed that way. And, with that, I will support Senator Ashford's amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Ashford, please. Oh, you...oh, you...excuse me. Senator Nelson, did you wish to speak further?

SENATOR NELSON: Question.

PRESIDENT: Okay, the question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye... (microphone shut off). Record, Mr. Clerk, please.