

is, okay, we got that \$25 million, we got it down, we have given...don't vote for anything else, don't vote for anything else and then 89 will, hopefully, pass on Select File. But I think it's important that the body realizes that now is the time for those of us who believe in local control, for those of us who believe that the state should not mandate a minimum salary in statute, for those of us who are basically tired of being threatened and pushed around by the NSEA saying if you want to send a message, you're tired of that, if you want to send a message that you believe in local control, that you eventually want a chance to strip Section 5 out of the bill, you've got to vote no for Senator Lynch's amendment. That's the rules of the game. That's what the vote means. And don't be sucked in to saying, well, give it one more vote, get that figure down, they're just trying to ease you into a trap and reel you in so they can move the vote, so they can move the bill with the minimum salary in it, they can move the bill to \$25 million and not talk about it anymore. I hope the body realizes the significance of defeating the Lynch amendment. That's what you have to do to make sure that the NSEA and the State of Nebraska, all the voters out there, understand that the Legislature is going to deal with this issue on our terms. We're not going to succumb to threats and be pushed around by the NSEA, we're going to deal with this issue on our terms. By voting down the Lynch amendment, you've sent that and maybe we can get to work on doing something for the teachers of the State of Nebraska, doing something for the teachers of the State of Nebraska that is not bad policy like LB 89 is.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Bernard-Stevens, please.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. President. I am, obviously, speaking in favor of the Lynch amendment and I appreciate that, Senator Scofield, I will need that little break. I feel a little uncertain about speaking actually on the issue at all, simply because...or if not uncertain, a little nervous because being a former educator and not too far distant from that profession I feel sometimes that what I have to say in this particular area will not be necessarily heeded simply because the comment will be, well, he's an educator, he was a former teacher, he still may be in the profession so what would you expect him to say. And I hope, at least, I can rise above that at some point that maybe a few of the comments I have to say can sink in. Before I really get started on the amendment, I do want to comment to the body I really don't care who says