

you could spend \$150 million without a tax increase. I was chastised for using that figure then, but now, lo and behold, that's the figure we've all agreed on and, too, I thought it was bad, bad policy to put in the statute a minimum salary. With this upcoming amendment we get around that problem by giving an incentive through a new categorical form of state aid that gives school districts incentives to get particularly their beginning salaries up to a certain level. But the beauty of it all is, it maintains local control because if a local school board does not want to do that, they don't have to. And with that, I guess I will, since we're not ready to go, I will not withdraw my amendment yet but I soon will be.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion? Senator Bernard-Stevens, would you like to speak to the amendment?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Moore, would you yield to a question?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Moore.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Would you yield to a question?

SENATOR MOORE: Yes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Moore, I was just kind of a little confused on what you stated, and I was going to ask you to restate all of that again, but I won't do that. Senator Conway is going to be offering an amendment just in a few moments which the body had the basics of it yesterday. Where would your amendment that we now have pending before us, where would your amendment have differed?

SENATOR MOORE: Well, basically, my amendment, what this amendment actually does, it maintained the funding formula in the original LB 89, but took away all of the mandatory salary increase language. So one of the flaws in that is you would be...a school district that has teachers at 12, \$13,000, under my amendment you would give them, say \$13,000, you would give them \$5,000 to get the teacher up to \$18,000. You wouldn't make them do it and so one of the things that Senator Nelson has always mentioned, you know, a district out there that simply can't afford to do it but is not, why should we reward them by giving them money? And that was one of the problems with my amendment. Senator Conway's amendment doesn't do that. It