

maybe even \$5,000 to get rid of a teacher that they don't think is qualified or is not a good teacher. Okay, my question to you is, how come we have a longer probationary period for larger schools than we do the smaller schools?

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WITHEM: I'd like to be able to answer your question, Senator Hefner, I don't know. I was not involved in the drafting of either the current legislation for the bigger schools or the legislation for the other schools, so I honestly cannot give you an answer.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, then my next question is, would you support the smaller schools to have the same probationary period for their teachers as the larger schools do?

SENATOR WITHEM: I don't know. Nobody has asked me the question before, so I cannot give you an answer.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, or would your committee be willing to do a study on that this summer?

SENATOR WITHEM: That's an easy one, yeah, you bet, be happy to.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, that's all the questions I have, so at this time I believe I can support this amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, on the Conway amendment.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I think I've suffered through the same frustrations as Senator Smith expressed. I think I have, and my record through the past years will show that I have been a supporter of education and I realize the problems, the dilemma that some of the teachers are in, and I think all of us want to do the best that we can for education. On the other hand, I don't like to be criticized and tossed around because I don't rubber-stamp a proposal that, as we can see down through the weeks, many of we senators could see through right away in the first place that was not satisfactory and could not be sustained through the years. I also have the same problem and frustration as Senator Smith and Senator Hefner have expressed and I know that the teachers in the system have that same problem, that they, themselves, see teachers that are