

SENATOR WITHEM: It's...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time has expired.

SENATOR WITHEM: ...the end of my time.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Amendment on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lamb would move to amend Senator Conway's amendment. (Lamb amendment appears on page 1777 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lamb, please.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you, Mr. President and members. This is a sparsity amendment. I think salaries in school districts reflect many things, supply and demand, but it also reflects the situation as far as living expenses and many other things. I think it is recognized that in Omaha and Lincoln the salaries are considerably higher than they are in other places. So my analysis of the Conway amendment is that the big bundle of money will go to those schools that already have high salaries for one reason or another. There will be very little help for those districts which, because perhaps they have a lower living cost and that sort of thing, that the salaries are low.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lamb, excuse me. (Gavel.) The Chair continues to be concerned about the noise level not only on this floor but under the balconies. Please, Senator Lamb should be heard. Proceed.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So this is...we do already have in our statutes a sparsity amendment for state aid. So what I have done, I have taken the sparsity amendment from 79-1386 (sic) and attached that to the Conway amendment because without this I think the bulk of the money is going to go to those schools that already have high salaries, already have high salaries. So with the sparsity amendment it will give an increased amount to those probably more sparsely settled areas that have lower salaries for one reason or another. Now the...I'll just read the whole amendment. Amend the Conway amendment as follows: Page 3, line 11 following the period insert: The amounts determined pursuant to this section shall be adjusted to reflect the sparsity factors prescribed in