

the region. That is something I can live with. That is something I can go back to my district and say, why did you waffle on that issue? I said, I didn't waffle, I was consistent all the way through and with the Conway amendment we're finally to the point that I've always said I would support. I urge you to defeat Senator Lamb's amendment and not reward those school districts that are skimping on teachers' salaries.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Smith, would you care to discuss the Lamb amendment, followed by Senator Lamb.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Senator Lamb, could I ask you to respond to a question, please?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: And if...yes.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Lamb, I'm giving you the opportunity basically to respond to what Senator Moore has said, the way...that your amendment, I don't have a copy of the amendment so I don't know exactly what...I just have to take what you said on the floor as the way it works, but can you again explain your reasoning for offering this amendment and will it, in fact, it only, and I hope you'll be very honest with me about this, will it, in fact, only aid those districts that have not been willing to pay their teachers though they may...they could have?

SENATOR LAMB: Well, it will aid, it will reward those districts that for some reason do have lower salaries or sparsity. It's really based on sparsity. But, you know, I can't go for a system here that says you've got to have the same salary in Omaha that you do in Anselmo.

SENATOR SMITH: Yeah.

SENATOR LAMB: And that's what this is saying, that is to recognize that all salaries...there's a difference in salaries whether you're talking about teachers or other kinds of workers in Omaha than there are in rural areas and that the living costs are lower and for many reasons they are less. And so I think it should somehow be reflected in this formula that Senator Conway has promoted. If I could, I did make an error in the section that I quoted, and it is 79-1336.