

that it ought to be funded separate from the other ways in which we finance the ongoing cost of education. So I think, rather than to go through the battle again two years from now as to whether or not it is appropriate to fund teachers' salaries as a categorical program, I would prefer not revisiting that issue, making a determination, setting this categorical program aside, and say that we want to leave that in place. Understand Senator Haberman's arguments, though, just not going to buy them. This one time, Rex, you and I are going to disagree, so I am sorry.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Conway, followed by Senator Moore.

SENATOR CONWAY: Mr. President and members, I, also would like to rise in opposition to Senator Haberman's amendment. Again, conceptually, he may be right, as Senator Withem pointed out, it could very well be that we are revisiting. I am at this point, at least, certainly a very strong supporter of LB 84, that Senator Lamb has introduced, dealing with that property tax relief provision, which we have talked about as being an interim and then talking about moving on to Senator Moore's LB 611 concept in two years, and, hopefully, that is in place. What we have to bear in mind is we are getting some apples and oranges kind of tossed in the same pot together here, in that, if we look at what we are doing under LB 89, the intent was an incentive for teachers. What we do under 611 is a concept to, hopefully, change the financial techniques for the taxpayers. I think there is a difference. LB 611 may ultimately relieve the technique of the burden that we are now placing on property as a source by which we generate local funds, but will we still need an incentive plan to get them to use those funds to enhance the teacher pay? I don't know, but, at this point in time, I see there being that difference, that 611 is designed for the taxpayer, LB 89 is designed to enhance the salary levels for the teachers and provide some motivation to do that. I think maybe we ought to keep it in place, not necessarily sunset it. We always on any spending measure have the ability to sunset anything at the time we don't put money into the fund and then make a decision from there. But, again, as Senator Withem said, I think that if we need that incentive at that time, we will have this approach on board. We won't have to go through the grueling process of recreating another initiative to do that. If 611 in itself and the teachers' salaries are where we want them to be and the funding method is there under 611, then we can do away with this program at that time. We no longer need