

SENATOR SCHMIT: Oppose.

SENATOR LYNCH: I wasn't...okay. Thank you. I wasn't quite sure. Two things I think are important that you should understand here, numbers thrown out and figures used, and it is a concern for me, especially when Senator Nelson throws out numbers like 80 percent of our school budget goes for salaries. I will say it twice, I usually don't do that, but in case you missed it, 80 percent of our school budgets goes for teachers salaries. The State Board of Education numbers I have in my hand, please remember this, I don't want to react to all the numbers that come on the floor as wrong as they might be, but this one I had to because they only missed it by 100 percent. Their numbers indicate that 41.8 percent of the school budgets go for salaries. All with that, hopefully we put that kind of a thing to rest. Secondly, I want to remind you all that I did, in fact, support some kind of reorganization myself on occasion around here, and one of them was to have one school district per county, and I just picked up support this year from Senator Lamb on that, which I am really grateful for, but in any case, by the way, there are seven counties in the state that do have one school district in the county, and one is even too small to have one. To tell you the truth, they have got to cooperate with other counties, but that now being said, you know when I suggested that, I did it with sort of tongue in cheek, but I also did it because I thought about in Douglas County, you know if I suggested other people should think about overlapping, duplication, waste in education, like the study indicated, for example, we are wasting \$100 million in Nebraska on education because of the overlapping and duplication and we don't want to do anything about it in some case because of the politics, whatever it might be, we don't want to face up to those tough decisions, I was willing to suggest we do it in Douglas County. One, you know we have got 15 school districts, we have got 15 administrators I guess. I know we have 10 busing systems. I never had anybody come to me from those school districts and say, hey, maybe there is something to this. You know, the way some of those school district boundaries were developed, the possibility exists that it is old hat now and the justification for that no longer exists. You know, a long time ago, they used to develop the boundaries for counties by getting on a horse and buggy and taking the wife and kids along and some lunch, and driving from sunup to sundown, and then driving a stake in the ground because nobody should have to drive more than one full