

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, my amendment, as I said yesterday, and there was some money adopted in LB 525, I'm not so sure whether that is going to carry through yet or not. My concern was the same as Senator Kristensen and any number of you here, that we are not giving anything to state aid. And, as you know, it went up a little bit from 1982, and then was cut, and back to this point. We've given money to cities, we've given money to counties, any number of other items. I'm not out here to kill the teachers or to kill LB 89. But I certainly feel that this should...and I've said this all along, I have said for several weeks or months about the figure that I was comfortable in supporting LB 89, and that is about where we're at right now. But I do feel, and in the discussion we have no business coming in, starting new programs, making new...well, new budget items and moving away when we do have LB 611. We are trying to restructure state aid to education. My amendment is a very simple thing. I don't think I need to spend an awfully lot of time on it. But it is simply that to strike LB 89 and put the provisions, the \$20 million back into state aid under our current formula, it would give the school districts and the school boards their local control and their say on how they should want to use this money. I was somewhat chastised, I believe, yesterday, maybe for using the wrong figures. I guess it's always the set of figures that you want to pull out of the air to make your point. I think Senator Lynch used 41.8 percent for teacher salaries, I guess it depends on which part of the teacher, the classroom. We all know that this is not...there are salaries that will be considered for special ed, education for libraries, so on and so forth, many, many other parts of the classroom. Also, what we will be coming up with is the principals, the classroom teacher will be over and above the principal in some cases. That will be something else that we will be facing. Any time that you raise one group, all of your salaries will go up in your school system. Where does that leave our school board and where does that leave the funding for our school systems? My amendment, as I said, would just put it back into state aid to education under the system that we currently have now and from...the teachers and the classroom teachers and the teachers and the salaries are good, about 80 percent. My school district's budget, to prove my point, back in 1987 and '88, in the general instruction costs, and this is not building programs and so on, 87 percent of the salary was...of the cost was salaries, 7 percent supplies and so on, and 7 percent for utilities and exclude the building costs. So a good share of the increase in LB 89 would still go to the