

lid on the schools?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Are we going to put a lid on the schools, Senator Haberman? Is that a foregone conclusion?

SENATOR HABERMAN: I say, if we put a lid on the schools, how are we going to handle that?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Well, that's a good question and I'm not sure that I can answer it, but if that should occur, we would probably have to revisit this issue of paying for it then. If a school is not able to accomplish that without expanded staff, expanded costs. I can't answer that definitively, Senator Haberman, and perhaps somebody else on the floor who has had more experience with these fiscal matters than I could answer that.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Thank you, Senator Schimek. I will look into the matter and if I find that some school says that they're going to have to hire additional staff where it's going to cause additional expenses to the schools, Senator Schimek, be prepared that I will fuss with you a little bit. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Wesely, please, followed by Senator Crosby, Senator Smith and Senator Dierks.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President and members, I would rise in support of the bill and encourage all of you to support it as well. The origin of this legislation comes from a study in 1988 by the Health and Human Services Committee. Senator Morehead, Senator Bernard-Stevens and myself, as well as the committee, looked at the issue of teen pregnancy. We held hearings in Lincoln and North Platte and we also found out that the issue of teen pregnancy ties in directly with the issue of teen suicide and teen drugs, and they all tie in, back into the very issue that this bill addresses. What we found, from our study in 1988, was that...problems that we're having with our young people, with our teenagers, the difficulties that they're having that result in the sort of problems that we have just identified with youth having pregnancies, suicide, which has been a problem in this state, and the problem with drugs that we're all concerned about in the state, especially with our young people, all come back to self-imaging problems that these individuals have had troubled youths, have had difficulties sometimes