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money in good years and bad. We have a pool of funds that can be used for educational innovation so that we can divest ourselves of always having to come to the Legislature and we have an investment for the future and we use money...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...that was paid for by tax money for education to do it. It's an excellent proposal, it's an excellent bill, I commend Senator Rasmussen and I urge members to support that and I give whatever few seconds I have to Senator Robinson.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time. I'll now recognize Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Madam President and members, I rise to support the motion of Senator Rasmussen and I will not give the arguments that you have heard before. They have been adequate and eloquent, nor will I defend the Highway Trust Fund. I would not...I do not believe I would support funding the bill from the Highway Trust Fund, but I think the bill should come to the floor. This is the long session. We have spent a tremendous amount of time thus far discussing issues of less relevance and importance than this one and we will continue to do so. We've spent several days on a bill of mine, LB 67, which probably should have died or have moved with 15 minutes of debate and we're not through with it yet. We'll spend a lot more money. It's kind of interesting that we today have a new glamour issue in politics and that's the environment. I ask you what is more important, the children of this state or the environment in which they live? They are both important, of course, but to say that we do not have or cannot afford the money that is necessary to discover whether or not we are achieving the kind of results in education which we all want, that is ridiculous. If we do not have the money to find out if we're getting the right results, then we're spending the money incorrectly in the first place. I think we ought to bring the bill to the floor, have it up here and debate it. We ought to thrash around where the money is coming from and I do not know if that number is adequate, too much or too little, but I think there is money there and I would suggest that Senator Rasmussen deserves us support, deserves our support and that we ought to bring the bill to the floor. We will...if we do not do it this year, we certainly will not do it next year. That means we're two years more down the road and the Excellence in Education which we all