

LB 994. We didn't fully fund it, but we said, you know, this is the right direction we should use. Well, unfortunately we're still behind in comparison and it's close to ten years later. We can have a lot of studies. We can put a lot of money in our educational system...

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SENATOR ABOUD: ...just like I showed going back to 1960. We've put a lot of money in our educational system on per pupil cost. But unless we are willing to make changes in our educational system, and unless we're willing to risk doing away with business as usual in our educational system, we are going to be consistently ranked below the other industrialized nations of this world. Now this is a small state. It's a small experiment, but don't you think it's worth a try for our children? I do. And I think that we should reexamine it. Let's see if that \$5 million that we put into that fund made a difference. You know, we may get lucky. It may actually work and we may see ACT scores go up. We may see comparisons with other countries in math and science, move up a little bit for our state.

SENATOR WARNER: Time.

SENATOR ABOUD: Five million dollars is a small amount of money compared to billions that, billion that we spend on our government in this state. I'm willing to support "Cap" Dierks' amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Pirsch, followed by Senator Ashford.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Senator Warner and members of the Legislature, I rise to support Senator Dierks' sunset clause. You know we've done a lot of changes just from '89 to '91. Maybe we'll find some even better solutions in LB 93 which will come out in 1993. You know I probably have more experience in the public school education than anybody on this floor and I challenge you to that. I have 90 years experience in the public schools. I have dealt with 286 teachers through my children's public school education and through my own. And I'll tell you I have about a half a dozen horror stories of teachers that shouldn't be teaching, but on the whole I think teachers are dedicated. They have a special talent and the special desire to work with our children and I applaud that. I have a daughter