

LB 89 money built into the base so that as we look at the budget that will be coming out from your committee next week, how did you plan for meeting the obligation? I know it's down to 15 million, but can you talk a bit about how this interrelates with the budget?

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, Senator Wesely, I would argue that, no, we didn't actually build it into the base. Basically, what the committee had done, and you may have followed some of the arguments we had in committee about it, you know, originally I think it was some people's desire that we would just build it into the base and appropriate that amount of money to the Department of Education. Then it was decided that since there was a sunset on the bill, there was no statutory authority to do that, so it had to have an A bill. So, originally, our committee in our preliminary recommendation we actually had showed it \$20 million in the Department of Education. Since that time, arguments were made and it certainly was my opinion that we did not have the authority to do that and so, at that time, 91 got an A bill of \$20 million. Well, at one point in time the committee was going to...when we start showing the green sheet after we introduce the bills next week, obviously, there is a line there for A bills. Now the base I argued over and above that. The A bill line, in our preliminary budget we had showed \$5 million with teachers in the base above that. Now that the teacher actually is not in the base, we increased the A bill amount and up until Tuesday or Tuesday night we plan on showing \$25 million for the A bill, 20 million is for teachers, 5 million for other A bills. Obviously, if Senator Lynch has an amendment to decrease that to \$15 million, our total on Wednesday will likely be 20 million for A bills, the thought being you have 5 million for A bills or \$15 million for teachers, well, obviously, that teacher bill will compete with all of them. So arguably our committee has stated that \$20 million for A bills, a portion of that will be for teachers and we have tried to allow room for that.

SENATOR WESELY: What does the reduction from 20 million to 15 million mean in terms...can we expect then for every teacher out there, let's say, got a \$1,000, now they'll get 750. Is that the concept?

SENATOR MOORE: You'll have to ask Senator Lynch that question, I guess, or possibly, but I mean...