

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Moore.

SENATOR NELSON: I understood by your conversation that you want this set aside in a separate fund and, yet, still included in the total revenue picture...

SENATOR MOORE: I strike that section of the bill. That is what I strike, Section 22.

SENATOR NELSON: Okay, I will listen a little more and accept your....

SENATOR MOORE: Well, I mean, the way it reads right now, it is not, and by striking it, then it does become.

SENATOR NELSON: All right, okay, thank you. I, only for just a second, I, too, have a lot of problem with earmarking all of these...the lottery that's not even here and whoever knows whatever it is, and I don't think that there is anyone that could say I have not been a consistent supporter of education. But I will tell you, that we have to have accountability and my problem in one big lump sum going to education without any accountability, without any need being addressed, and the many, many programs that do need to be addressed, Senator Rasmussen says children with learning disabilities, children with early education. And worldwide, I will tell you, folks, our education system is not competitive any longer, and we will turn to more of a Third World country if we don't watch our dollars much, much closer in education, and there are so many needs. So I have a problem with just saying education without any necessarily accountability, and some of those that are responsible for accountability have to be given more responsibility, too. So it works both ways, but just to blankly say or earmark any of these funds, I think we are moving down the wrong path. I went to a session in Washington, D.C., the other day on state budgets. I'll tell you some of them are in terrible problems, and one of the things that's sad is states have too often earmarked revenue and funds, and then those funds did not materialize, so states found them within their state budgets, and that is exactly what we would do here. And so I will oppose any amendments right at this point for earmarking, and I guess that I understand Senator Moore's amendment, and I will listen and probably support that.