

property tax stream, and across the State of Nebraska where it is difficult to heap more burden on the counties. On the other hand, if you want to retain a system that, basically, maintains a great deal of local control, you can't expect the state to pay the entire bill. I just want to reiterate that I know there is a good reason for adopting the amendment out of the bill this year, but I know Senator Wesely and I have talked before that that part of this bill will be revisited one way or the other, and I think Senator Wesely and I agree it needs to be, I just want to reiterate that it has to be. The second thing I want to just mention once again, Section 17 of the bill, where it creates the entitlement provisions of this bill, you look at the fiscal note, you look on into the next biennium, this bill creates tremendous costs to the State of Nebraska in years to come. Not this biennium, but the next biennium, we are talking about, you know, a five, six million dollar cost, and it is a policy change we are making, and there are some reasons for doing such. But hope you remember this year, we are in the case where we are talking about 2 percent across-the-board cuts, and I know Senator Wesely gave us a dissertation the other day on how aid was increasing and state government operations was not. Well, Senator Wesely, as he knows, the portion of aid increasing is not...

(No overlap on tapes. Some debate may be missing.)

SENATOR MOORE: ...this year, or if you remember back in January, just to throw some numbers around, we had \$50 million to spend. We took 20 million for salary contracts; another 40 million for entitlements. We already had to start cutting the budget. So it was these type of things we were putting into statute in 830 that are...and though it's postponed for a couple of years, these sort of entitlement programs simply, for lack of a better term, really eat us alive when it comes to budget time. And, on the other hand, I do not want to take away from the fact that these people are deserving of service and it does not make sense to simply throw them out in the cold, so to speak, when they reach the age of graduation or the age of 21, but, nevertheless, just would like to voice the concern about Section 17 that the cost is not this biennium and...but it is a sizeable cost in the next biennium. So, with that, I certainly do not request a machine vote at all, just want to get that in the record.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator Robinson.