

help children. That is the only incentive that I am aware of in the teaching profession today. If a teacher does more than another teacher does that has the same number of years of experience, is right down the hall, they do far, far more, they still both move up the same on the pay scale. In most cases as negotiations occur, it does not make any difference on how much they are doing, how much more they are doing, they get the same as everyone else. I don't like that. There is no incentive. One thing the people have refused to talk about on the floor, and maybe it is because they are not aware, you could be a teacher of the year in the State of Nebraska and married or whatever and be forced to move and you move...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...in the State of Nebraska, and your teaching experience is going to be cut in half. In half, that is what happens traditionally. If you are ten-year, twenty-year veteran, whatever the case, your stock should be high, you are good, and in any other market, the public is going to pay for that experience because you've earned it. You are good. Not in education. You are punished because as you move in most cases you are going to lose half of the experience off the top, that is just how it is done, so school districts can pay cheaper wages for faculty. There is no incentive in education. What we are trying to say, Senator Nelson, you were correct on the other problems that we have, where we are trying to say in education is, hey, not only do we care, but we are going to try to put some incentive in there. We are going to try to say that the State of Nebraska is willing to put our money where our mouths are and say education is one of our most important things we can do for our future. We are willing to put money and we are willing to put performance base so we can give teachers what they deserve, and that is a fair shake for one hell of a job.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Rasmussen.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: I would call the question.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Do we have sufficient seconds? We do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, to cease debate, Madam President.