

the Department of Education. They would be allowed to use up to \$27,000 maximum, if they wanted to do it. On line 12 of Senator Hefner's amendment, if any of you have it in front of you, it was filed November 3rd, November.. March 8th of last year. It would add the Nebraska Department of Education and then it would cross out on line 12, "The Executive Board of the Legislative Council may appoint a committee of up to three legislators to work with the director in overseeing the general administration and expenses of the academy." Section 1 would be eliminated, "This is hereby appropriated \$132,000 from the General Fund for the period July 1, (1989) to June 30, (1990), and \$16,000 from the General Fund for the period July 1, 1990 to June 30, 1991, to the Legislative Council, for Program 126, to aid in carrying out the provisions of LB 408, Ninety-First Legislature, First Session." That I would eliminate. I would leave in there. "Total expenditures for permanent and temporary salaries and per diems from funds appropriated in this section shall not exceed \$27,000 for the period July 1, 1989, to June 30, 1991 (sic)." Of course, those dates would have to be changed. That is simply what my amendment does. If we are going to...if we cannot address the issue, it would turn it over to the Department of Education with a maximum of \$27,000. I don't think they really get a lot of programs for \$27,000, but that would be the maximum.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Nelson. Does any senator wish to speak to the Nelson amendment? Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Just briefly, Madam President. I guess I rise to oppose the Nelson amendment to Senator Hefner's amendment, only for the following reasons: I think it...the original intention of the Legislature is that we, as a body, would do something positive in the field of not only education, but also educating youth who do not traditionally get a chance for leadership, but to talk about leadership, self-esteem, and also government at the same time. It is a step that the Legislature took to say that we, too, want to take a step forward to help Nebraska's youth in a very small, albeit, way, but nonetheless a positive way. I have a problem with being on the Appropriations Committee seeing that the Department of Education budget, which is so massive and has so many programs, this particular thing would simply get lost in that particular entity at this point. If we want to keep...if we want the program to be specifically targeted for what we intended a few years ago when we put the program in, then we should do, I