

to take that class. It's not really available to everybody. I think if we do have to have a mandatory driver's education in our school system, we'd better make sure that it's available to all the young people. I really don't...I was...if you notice, in the Transportation Committee I was the only one present not voting. I just think we're mandating to people something that isn't funded. I guess that's all I have to say until my amendment comes up. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Robak. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body, you know what I hear is that somewhere hidden in LB 336 is a mandate that the schools have got to teach driver's education and, as I have sat and listened to this discussion, I went back and reread it all, I don't find that anywhere in this copy and I don't find it in the amendment, and Senator Bohlke was exactly right. There is a provision there for private providers. There is there for community colleges, for school districts, if they want to, and it's going to be a blend. But what we're really looking at here is where are your priorities in terms of driver's education? And, Senator Moore, if we would have brought in this bill and said that the state has got to pay for driver's education, there would be such a hue and cry, why we've got higher priority, we can't take this money out of the state budget, besides we're telling the schools what they've got to do and, of course, it wouldn't work. And if we said, schools, you must do it but you must pay it, I think that's the worst evil of all because then you say increase that property tax so we can have another state program. Not true, not true at all. This is the reasoned approach, this is the middle ground between mandating that program and giving it no funding and giving it all the state funding in the world and that is to go on a pay per pay basis and you will see that more in the area as we have other programs to deal with this. The School Board Association supports these things, the teachers association supports these sorts of things, not because driver's education is convenient, but because it's important. And I can't fathom as we spend more and more time, if we're having less than half the driver's I meet have never taken a course in driver's education, never learned about defensive driving, never learned about many of the things that we're going to deal with, I can't fathom that. I know very few cars, Senator Moore, who cost under \$150. Now maybe the ones that you've had a little problem with that you kind of blew up and wrecked, maybe they were worth \$150