

get something done. There is a desire in this body to support the amendment offered by Senator Rasmussen, Crosby, Bernard-Stevens and there would have been a host of others if we would have asked them or if we would have spread it and said do you want to be on it as well? There is a strong desire to do it. This is the last chance to do that. The only thing holding people back is if they want to hide behind a curtain and say, oh, gosh, I'm going to take a strict interpretation rule today and I can go back to my teachers, I can go back to ed people in education, I can go back to the parents of the children that we're trying to help and say, gosh, we could have helped you, but there is a rule that if we interpret it strictly, gosh, it was beyond my scope, what could I do, I would have if I would have had a chance for. If you want to hide behind this curtain, do so. If you want to have a group have a shot at something that we all know is of very vital importance to education, the children of the people of this state, all we're saying is...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...let's, if we have a desire to do it, let's take as we have in the past a broad interpretation and let's proceed and let the debate go on the merits of the bill and Senator Warner stated, yes, there may be challenges. I suspect regardless if the bill was even separate by itself that they highway associations and the high powered lobbyists with the Highway Trust Fund would be somehow trying to go to court to save every penny they have. God forbid if a penny for a gravel seed on a road would go to education. We are looking at an edge on a Highway Trust Fund that the figures come from the federal government that we're going to get over, in fact, in the years 1987-1991, we received in Nebraska one-half of a billion...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...dollars, but we're afraid to throw a few crumbs at education. Take the courageous stand, overrule the Chair.

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

SENATOR HEFNER: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I wasn't going to talk on this, but I believe that I will at this time. I agree with the Chair. I do not believe that this