

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Nelson. Senator Moore. I do not see Senator Moore. Senator Lynch. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. We will now vote on ceasing debate. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on ceasing debate. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 12 ayes, 12 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Debate does not cease. Senator Robinson, you're next.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. President and members of the body, I think the bill...the way the bill is now it's, I think I would encourage everyone to vote against it. We're sticking the wards of the court \$1.7 million and there are a lot of things we haven't considered. I know nothing will happen this year but a lot of things that when we look at teacher pay we never consider...I mentioned the other day, the top 20 schools in the State of Nebraska, their average pay is \$28,615. That would put them in the 28th highest paid state...the average of the highest paid teachers in the country. And if you would factor out...if you would factor out the cost of living, they would be much higher. Why is this? I can tell you why it's like that, because it's the efficiency of our educational system in the State of Nebraska. Senator Lynch had a bill here, oh, I don't know how many years ago it was, and I think it was to make county...just have a school district in one county. Is that right, Senator Lynch? Senator Lynch gives me a yes on that. And I have been doing some...been comparing the superintendent salaries, adding them up, and then the number of students. I probably will never live that long but if you talk about inefficiencies, one county, four superintendents, \$157,420 for superintendents; total students, 950. Now is that efficiency? Now if we would use that money for teacher pay, we would have no problem. There are a few instances in the State of Nebraska where there is a superintendent for two schools. And here's another one, \$91,220 for 588 students; 150,000, 1,272 students. And I know there are places out in the State of Nebraska that you...there's nothing you can do about this because of the many miles between schools. But there are several in the State of Nebraska we could do something about. Here's one, \$126,000, 582 students, not too far out there. You notice, I'm not mentioning the counties because I don't think that would probably be appropriate at this time. Here's another one, \$135,000, 1,200