

Appropriations Committee, Scotty, when he said this was the only way to balance the budget was to take it away from the teachers, because I think he would probably agree that it wasn't the only way, but it was the easiest way, because I don't think he, or I, or anyone else on the Appropriations Committee, and even those with great experience in appropriations here understand where all the money is spent in this state. And I'd be willing to bet that there is \$8 million 8 times over sitting out there that could be better used to support the teachers. Now I know that to take it out of the General Funds is, in a sense, irresponsible. Then we would have to leave it up to the politics of the issue, should the Governor veto it or not, or should we take the time, in the Appropriations Committee and should the body take the time to understand where some of those funds might come from. Remember a long time ago that study that we did for some \$300,000 when Vard Johnson was Chairman of the Revenue Committee, called the Syracuse Report. It pointed out we're wasting 150 some million dollars on education in Nebraska, administratively, not on teachers, not on buildings, but administratively. Where is all the people? Where are all the people that don't want to address that issue, that don't even want to talk about the possibility of doing away with that kind of waste? We find reasons and excuses not to keep our trust with the teachers, and that's unfortunate. But I also know it would be difficult to pass this, and it would be irresponsible at this time to try to fund the proposal. And I do intend to support 1022. But Senator Schrock and I have another amendment that has not been published in the Journal that we're going to offer at this time, especially since there have been so many people that said we want to help you teachers, but we just don't know how to do it. Well, we got a way to do it, and it's easy, it really is easy. We're going to share it with you here, as soon as this amendment is over with. And I hope you might stick around and listen because it would be a way to at least, for the next three, or four, or five years, or even longer, offer some stability to these funds. Remember, if the teachers had not agreed to take that 5 million off the top, right now they'd be sitting with about 13 or 14 million bucks, and we wouldn't be here talking about it today. But they did that. And I think that's an exercise that's a lesson to every other agency, or special interest group, or whatever you might want to call it in the state. Don't offer to help anymore, folks. If you offer to help us resolve our problems I guess that's an indication that you're weak, and in fact you can be taken advantage of, because teachers certainly have. And I don't want to hear anybody else