

Senator Moore, on the Conway amendment. I do not see Senator Moore. Senator Robinson, on the Conway amendment.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. Chairman and members of the body, I rise to support the Conway amendment. And I hope you support the amendment and then...this amendment and then support his original amendment. Senator Withem can talk all he wants to about the funds going back to the local education association. But if you know any...if you know the workings of local education associations, you know the teachers that have just been there a few years have nothing to say about it. If you think so, get ahold of some of your people, see how the money was distributed. I had...I had a number of letters from people, from young teachers that felt that they weren't treated fairly on this issue. So I would urge you to support the Conway amendment to the amendment and then his original amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. Speaker and members, I haven't read the latest amendment that was just passed out but it probably is like the previous amendment which wasn't published in the Journal and we got on Select File here too. In any case, I was only going to comment and my good friend, Senator Nelson, mentioned that she knew a family of two teachers, husband and wife, maybe, I'm not sure, sister and sister, that were making a lot of money. And I would just like to point out that I...this whole effort had to do with teachers and not a family, it had to do with a teacher and what a teacher is really worth, not how much the husband or the wife might be worth or whatever job they have, or not how much the collective income is of the whole family, including the mother and the father, or anybody else. And I hope we don't lose sight of that. How much the family makes from teaching is another issue and, I guess, if you want to check into the postsecondary systems, you might find families making well over \$200,000, both that were teachers. But that's not the point either. The point is that these funds for the HELP program were developed, as has been said before, to help reward, in a sense, but at least recognize the excellence of teachers and the hard work they accomplish. It seems so easy for us to pick on teachers and I don't know why. It can be easy to pick on anybody, I guess, if it seems popular back home for you to do that. But I would think that teachers, in some ways, have to be blessed with a lot of grace to be able to put up with