

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yes.

SENATOR CROSBY: Yeah, that's what I thought that they could do. And the other thing, when you just hand them \$100,000 you have no knowledge at least unless you have something that they've spelled out for you as to how they would actually use that \$100,000. So at this time I just won't go for the \$100,000 although I understand why you brought the amendment. And the other thing I might point out, I don't think I said this earlier, I think we have to be really careful with the Department of Education of handing out too much money or little amounts or whatever anyway. There's a lot of people in the State of Nebraska that think we should just do away with the Department of Education and that's not realistic. I know that. But we do have a fairly significant number of people who feel that they have a lot of money and even though they have their own governing board they still think the Legislature maybe is a little too generous to the Department of Education. So that's another reason, I just think even a small increment like this, I think we have to be careful so I will vote no on it. Thank you.

SENATOR HALL PRESIDING

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Beutler, your light is next.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Hall and members of the Legislature, I think I also will vote no on it and I would like to explain why. I would also like to give Senator Bernard-Stevens an opportunity to respond. But I guess my objection comes from sitting on the Education Committee and working with this process. For example, I had a bill this session that was killed by the Education Committee but it proposed a study of a certain aspect of education. It doesn't matter what it was, but it proposed a study. And other people have gone through this process and the process is good in the sense that it forces you to define what the study is that needs to be done and why it needs to be done and you have a public hearing on it. And I guess my question is why are we doing some of the studies this way and then we turn around through this general appropriation process and hand over to the Department of Education money for studies which are unidentified and on which they have no obligation whatsoever to do any particular study or one or the other or whatever? It seems to me that the process of identifying the studies, and this is what we do in most all other areas, knowing what we're