

have, I think, a higher purpose for that money and that's to educate our kids to bring in the kind of technology that they're going to need to compete with their peers in other areas of the country, in order to get the kind of jobs that we talk about here on the floor when we are talking about economic development and all those other wonderful things. We've got to give them the tools. If their school building happens to be a little colder but they've got a computer there to work, so be it. I don't think this is a bad proposal at all. As a matter of fact, I think the compromise that was reached with the Robinson-Wither amendment that used the weatherization money was one that made the program even more viable than the use of the lottery monies that were originally sought. It was interesting, I remember the General Affairs Committee, there were a number of people coming in asking for lottery monies, none of which supported the lottery when that proposal was in front of us. And I understand that was the case. And actually that was one of the reasons we dedicated those monies before the issue went to the people to vote on it, because I didn't want a mad scramble after the fact where everybody who now had a great idea of what to use the money for when they wouldn't vote to allow that the money be raised through the form of gambling that we were talking about. But I...I strongly urge you to resist the bracket motion. If you don't like the bill, fine, just vote against it. Vote it up or down here today. There's no reason to bracket this proposal. Bring in a proposal in six months to address concerns that you have but don't deal with it in this fashion on Senator Robinson's bill. Madam President, I would yield the balance of my time to Senator Bernard-Stevens.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Bernard-Stevens, there's a minute and a half remaining.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Hall. Madam President, members of the body, just wanted to rise to make one comment on something that was stated earlier and that was concern for those school districts that have already spent monies on the Internet portion. One of those school districts is North Platte. They spent a lot of money as well. And, by the way, I rise in opposition to the bracket motion. My comment to the Superintendent of North Platte, when he said the same thing, and Chris and I get along real well, but sometimes...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.