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LB 149

would give us a jump on budget planning which results in better decisions. I think that that is extremely important to understand. And so with that, I'm ready to answer any questions. Oh, legal counsel has told me the department will be here at eleven-thirty, not right now, and on the web site at noon, every school district will get the information you have today, and every school district and school board have been alerted to the fact that they can teleconference with the department this evening at seven-thirty. And that's open to the public. It's going to...it's going to be out at the studio,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR BOHLKE: ...and so it may not be easy to get there, but certainly we've gone to every length possible to communicate all this information with school districts across the state.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. For discussion on the bracket motion to LB 149, Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I appreciate how much work both the Education Committee and the Department of Education have done to get us data that hopefully is accurate and...but I still have concerns that we are at March 8 and I would think that probably we have worked as hard as we possibly can this year, under the circumstances, with a bill pending to put the data together in a timely manner. And it still has not left us with enough time to digest the information. I dutifully brought my notebook, read through the notebook over the weekend, and I think pretty much understand, as best I can, the information that was included in the notebook, and then I receive an e-mail that says, maybe there are some aspects in the notebook that aren't quite accurate and so maybe you need to ignore some of the aspects of it. And then we get this data at what I would consider certainly the eleventh hour and are expected to digest it. And so I am very sympathetic to Senator Quandahl's motion because I understand the seriousness that I think that he's taking this decision with and certainly the seriousness that I'm taking this decision with, that this is a bill that is going to make enormous changes; that the...fixing the problem that...that we've been referring to is just one piece of it. There are some other very