

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

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Certainly, I hope the information I presented to you on the bullet sheet was helpful. I do not feel one of those bullets was disingenuous. If it was I wouldn't have handed it out on the floor. It was an attempt I think to put forward to you and so that you could, in your mind, as you read down those two sides and those bullets, decide what the impact is or what it is not with the passage of 149. I think the Education Committee has attempted to be accommodating on time, on trying to get accurate, new information to you in a way that was easier to understand, having the Department of Education available to answer any questions any of you may have, and I think that they felt some of you had some very good questions, and I hope through all of this that there's an understanding of...a further understanding of state aid. But will we be back visiting it? I always need to remind people that the formula is meant to be fluid. When schools' needs change, the formula reacts. It's meant to act that way, and so it is not something that you will not see any change. I don't think that I ever said that this would solve everything. If it did, I would immediately resign and go out as a high-paid consultant to every state with their school aid formula. No, it doesn't solve everything. I've never said it would. I do think that it improves the formula, adds the predictability and stability, a great deal more predictability and stability, and I feel that we've worked hard to see that that is accomplished. It does not solve everything. I've never said it would solve everything and, in fact, when we have new issues that come into the district, whether it be motor vehicle tax or other things that we do as policy, in this body the formula is meant to react. We've had some discussion of the veto. I've read in the paper about the veto. I still hold out hope that there may be some meeting of the minds. I'm certainly willing to discuss that with the Governor. I don't know what that final outcome will be. Perhaps what we read in the paper is true and there will be a veto. Then I would be back urging you at that time to override the veto. But until that happens, I simply urge you to suspend the rules and to vote to Final Reading on LB 149 and, once again, thank you for your attention, the questions you've asked. I think the good work we've done on this...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.