

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

March 16, 2000 LB 715

our district in quite a panic. But Senator Raikes did an excellent job of working directly with us and trying to explain every move he made, trying to make any adjustment he could to satisfy the people of my district, and I do want to thank him for that and compliment him for that. As far as advising him to move forward in this same direction, so far he's demonstrated the ability to progress in the right direction. So, you know, I, too, join in the encouragement of him moving forward with this and trying to come up with an equitable and fair scenario because, quite frankly, the people of Grand Island looked at this as, you know, they thought of themselves as a physical...fiscal responsible district, and they felt like they were being punished for that, while others cities that were not so responsible seemed to be being awarded. So, for that reason, there was a lot of concern. Again, I would like to thank Senator Raikes for all his hard work on this.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. Senator Raikes, you've got the tiger by the tail, just don't let it go. I think what you're doing is admirable. In my district, which isn't very large, I have four schools; three of them will be, under this plan will be losers, one will a gainer. But if we're willing to bite the bullet for something that we can see down the line as that J-curve gets closer, we bring more people together in that, so it's just a ripple, it's never going to be a straight line. There is always going to be a little discrepancy there. I think that we will eventually see, if we don't mess around with it, if we don't tweak it and tinker with it that much, give it a chance to work the way I think it's going to work and, hopefully, we can end up with a much more stable way of distributing the state aid through the state of Nebraska. I...I'm willing to go out on a limb and support what you're trying to do. I think in the long run it's going to be a good solution to a problem we've always faced, we've always had the big gainers and the big losers. Hopefully, we'll level this out a little bit and be able to realize some stability somewhere along the line, if there ever is any stability in the state aid formula. We're always going to have some swings, I realize that, hopefully, it isn't that much. But I'm willing to go out on a limb representing my district and