

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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So we have tried, you know, to include...we have a taxpayer, several taxpayers, school administrators, so we really have tried to...

SENATOR QUANDAH: And I appreciate your responding to my questions and I guess I would just state for the body that I stand in support of this study because this is a topic that I think should be and is of concern to everybody in the state to address. And so I do stand in support of your amendment.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Suttle.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I am going to support this, but I don't want to. We have been looking at this and know of the needs out in the state, especially in Omaha, where the dropout rate is huge, because so many of the kids think that there's nothing else for them except college and they don't feel that they have the brain power, equipment, or money sometimes to go to college. Not everybody is college material. We have many needs that are slowly diminishing in this state. We don't have enough plumbers. We don't have enough electricians. We don't have enough people who work and are artisans in their own right. And I don't think we need another study. I think we need to fund it, and I don't understand, that when the Governor introduced, himself, the school-to-work measure, why he wouldn't be willing to fund this at \$1.4 million? I just don't get it. I think his thoughts are misdirected and I think he's wrong, especially in this instance, and would encourage him to look again at how we are spending our money and where. And it's necessary to spend money to have the workers that will be needed in the future and that's where this would help. And I really don't want to see this program go by the wayside. I supported the school-to-work program and...but I very much supported LB 495. I even supported the \$6 million that was there in the first place. So for the rest of my time, Senator Kristensen, I would yield my time to Senator Bohlke.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Bohlke, you have approximately two and a half minutes.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you, Mr. President and members. To take