

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

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debate should cease. Please record.

ASSISTANT CLERK 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Debate has ended. Senator Lynch, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members, Nebraska ranks 49th of the 51 states and D.C. that participate financially in school breakfast programs. So I only mention that. Nobody wants to hear those kind of numbers. Where you rank isn't important, but this ranking indicates the kind of participation when an argument is made that we should do more, the school districts should do more than they're doing now to help kids participate in this program. Obviously, they are participating more than most other states, given the difference and percentage, trying to provide these programs. And the state, on the other hand you see, in my opinion at least, isn't doing enough. The A bill also, for what it's worth, I want to share with you, was based on, the Fiscal Office tells me, on the total number of meals served in Nebraska. And since the inclusion of equalized aid schools language, obviously that number is an inflated number, so that \$233,550 could be \$233,549, I'm not sure, but it's obviously less. I...I'm really grateful for the kind of dialogue we had today, and I'm especially...I especially admire, please understand it this way, Senator Raikes' interest and concern and questions on this 5 cents item in our budget. Certainly it will grow. And from what I have heard today, I'm even more convinced that we have to have some kind of a 309 oversight committee for technology. If we can spend this much time on 5 cents for a breakfast program for kids, just think of all the fun we can have talking about the millions and millions and millions of dollars more we're spending every year on technology and data processing where we have no information at all as to, first of all, whether it's justified, and whether it's really going to work, and not even worrying about whether it's going to work, just being told by these kinds of people that deal with this sort of thing that this is the thing to do and you've got to spend the money. So, if we can have people on a 309 type committee on technology, like Senator Raikes and others, who know the kind of questions to ask to get to the heart of the issue and find out and justify