

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

April 2, 2004 LB 1091

things for rural communities, and anything we can do to encourage something that I know from many years on the Education Committee is a very positive thing to do for students, because I think most of the material indicates that it's in these size of school districts, creating a little larger setting, has been...has been found to be very educational...educationally beneficial for students and helps them get into the university system much easier because they have more courses available to them also. But I just...I rose really to ask you one question quickly. Is there a cap on these...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...funds? Is it first come, first served, or does everybody who needs the money within that time period get the money in accordance with the bill? I'm for it, whatever your answer is here, but I was wondering how it worked exactly.

SENATOR RAIKES: Roughly, and I'll look at the details, Senator Beutler. That's a good question. We were at least going to cap the amount of money that would be paid out in the first year. So, as I said, it would be paid over a two-year period, so it may be that if there were a lot of applications, everybody would not get fully half in the first year, but...so it would be capped in that first year. Our intention though was that in the second year we would adjust the appropriation, or adjust the use of the lottery money in this case, to make it so that whoever applied...well, yeah, whoever qualified would, in fact, get the total amount that they were...they were promised, so if that makes...if that makes any sense.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yeah. If that's not in the law, I hope...I hope you'll proceed to do that, and I hope the body will support you in doing that.

SENATOR RAIKES: Okay.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Erdman, Raikes amendment.