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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 1091

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes, I would agree.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Raikes. Members of the Legislature, this is an issue that I was not going to jump into, but the opportunity presents itself. I tell you that my colleagues do not put things together. They don't weigh the consequences of their actions. Some of those senators who are in areas with schools that would be impacted by this incentive program are going to vote to put a bar in the way of being able to get at sufficient funds from the lottery to do this if such a contingency arose. I think I even heard Senator Stuhr say, it's good sometimes to use an incentive rather than a threat to try to get the schools to do something. I believe she's the one who said that. I might be the only one who remembers she said it. She may not even remember, but I do. I pay attention to you all. That's what I'm here for. So here you're going to vote for this bill. It has a sweetener in it. But the money for the sweetener may be artificially chopped off by you putting a lamebrain amendment in the constitution because "Emperor" Radcliffe and the State Fair Board and the city of Lincoln want it. This is what is known in court cases as weighing, w-e-i-g-h-i-n-g. You have a scale, and you put things on the two sides to see which one counts the most, or counts more, in your judgment. So in weighing these two items, you think it's so important to give the State Fair a guaranteed 10 percent that you're going to limit the amount in the constitution, by way of the constitution, that can be available for education. That is what is at stake. And I need to call that to your attention when concrete issues arise that may be impacted by it. You all have been just thinking about the State Fair Board, haven't you? Well, I'm glad Senator McDonald offered her motion, because it gives you an opportunity to see that what is before us right now is impacted. So what do you want to do now? Do you want to take her motion seriously? Return this bill, not necessarily to strike the enacting clause, but to strike the Raikes amendment...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.