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February 3, 2005 LB 329

SENATOR LOUDEN: Okay.

SENATOR STUHR: ...that it is...it's a separate...it provides for a separate account. And 16 school districts are already doing this. And we just...there was an allowance, but we wanted to make it very clear in the statute that this could be done.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Now, as that comes out of there, this money, is that considered part of the needs when they...for their state aid to education formula?

SENATOR STUHR: I can't answer that. I'll try and find you the answer. Okay?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Well, yeah, I would be concerned. Because I think, you know, if we're giving schools more authority to have an inducement for early retirement and some...or that sort of thing, that I question whether the state of Nebraska should be the one funding it through their needs, if it's considered part of their needs or not. So that would be my main question on that. I would like to, you know, see some clarification on this, if we could, about where the money is coming from and what's happening to it. Because school systems...any funding that goes out of school system has a direct effect on property taxes. And we have to be very careful on what we do about the authority on funding school systems, and who's paying for it, and where the money is coming from. Thank you. I'll return the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR JANSSEN PRESIDING

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Louden. Senator Synowiecki.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Thank you, Senator Janssen, members. Senator Louden, relative to your question, perhaps I can help on some of your questions. And I would just like to thank our very capable Chair, Senator Stuhr, for introducing this bill. This has been a problem. And the problem embodied in this, Senator Louden, is that the teachers are under a defined benefit plan. In other words, their benefits are defined. And part of that