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

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be making any of them. In fact, when we were both back in high school, I detasseled corn for Ron's father. Ron's younger sister and I were the same age and we would ride that machine through the field, and we would talk about, what else do teenage girls talk about, boys. And we all thought that Ron was so cool. Well, Susan didn't, but she's his sister. But the rest of us thought he was so cool. Now, Ron, you're still cool, but on this issue you're wrong. And, Senator Price, you said that should allow the Class I students to make better choices. That's why they are where they are, in many cases, because they have made the best choice, the parents have made the best choice For whatever reason, a child moves from a for their students. larger K-12 to a Class I setting. It could be just a personality conflict with a teacher. It could be bullying occasions in the larger school. It could be the more one-on-one help. It could be innumerable things. And there are reasons why people that are in the Class I move to a larger area: it's more convenient; their parents work in the larger city and they don't have to spend so much time at the baby-sitter's that way. So, as far as I'm concerned, the better choice is where the parents want to send their children. We have four issues that are very, very important to citizens of Nebraska. Probably the first on that list would be education. Of course, you get an education at a Class I, you get an education at a K-12, and who's to say which is the better education? However, statistics have shown, and I have some in this pile somewhere, that says that the graduation rates for the larger schools are lower, and the graduation rates for the smaller schools are higher. I'll keep thumbing through here. Also, the academic probation rates, if students go on to college and then they get into trouble scholastically, it depends on the size of school that they are from if they are in academic probation, academic problems or not. Schools that have 1,000 or more students, their graduation rate, let's see, it's 84 percent. That's pretty dismal. If you go to less than 70, the graduation rate when those students go on to high school is 97 percent. Now, what is the reason for Individual instruction? More parental involvement? Of course, because when you're in a Class I setting you do have more one-on-one instruction. If you're in the 2nd grade and the 3rd grade is having their reading lesson, you're going to be listening to that so you get built-in enrichment class.