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

February 25, 2005 LB 503

to me now as to the directions that we need to go. Thank you, Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Bourne a question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bourne, would you yield?

SENATOR BOURNE: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Bourne, were you asked to bring this amendment?

SENATOR BOURNE: Actually, I was not.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So who drafted it?

SENATOR BOURNE: My staff, Lisa and...Lisa Johns, my...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Oh, okay. But it didn't come from the Omaha Public Schools.

SENATOR BOURNE: No, it did not. Now I will tell you, Senator Chambers, and I think that Senator Stuhr and other members of the Retirement Committee would vouch for this, after...well, during the hearing, I asked one of the representatives, I believe from the school board administrators, if this...they had asked for a delay in the enactment of this increase, and I asked them during the hearing, if we remove that from the levy, would that help, and they both...they said yes. And so, actually, I'm...while I think the Omaha School District and the other school districts are supportive of that, it was my idea, for better or worse.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And I'm proud of you, Senator Bourne, but I still don't think that I'm going to support it. I was just curious about the role of the Omaha Public School District, because having read the petition that they filed in joining the