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April 6, 2005 LB 689A, 689

you have about 7, 47 left.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Senator Stuhr, I think, has outlined the issue here well. I think there was agreement in the discussion yesterday, or I hope there was, that this is certainly an issue that needs to be addressed. We need to have an updated technological connection between schools in Nebraska. That goes away beginning in the...beginning July 1, 2006. What this is about is upgrading and continuing that arrangement. In terms of what that will cost, as Senator Stuhr has explained, we're not...in the base bill to the measure LB 689, we are not authorizing the expenditure of any funds. Rather, it's going to be a task force to come up with a plan as to what to do. The whole idea of the A bill, or the main portion of the A bill, is to provide a place in the budget for funding that may be needed once that plan comes in place. Our initial...the initial amount that was brought to us by those people who are expert in this area was...actually, was \$50 million over three years. That was reduced to \$30 million over three years, and now, as you see by the yellow sheet, \$26 million over three years. These are, I think, based on good knowledge of not estimates. only the technology, but the services available and what they cost and the providers and so on. So we are trying to make the bill conform as closely as we can to the best information we The best information we have at this point is that it would cost \$8 million in the 2006-2007 fiscal year. So that's what we are adjusting the fiscal note, or what we propose that you adjust the A bill to reflect. With that, I will stop and offer to respond to questions. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Raikes. You've heard the opening on AM1025 to LB 689A. Open for discussion on that amendment. Senator Beutler, followed by Senators Chambers, Brown, and Kopplin. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, just to give you the order of things this morning, there are three amendments filed. You're hearing the first one, that proposes to reduce the appropriated amount from \$10,000 (sic) to \$8,000 (sic). The second one is my amendment, that would reduce