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LB 146

Raikes, Senator Dwite Pedersen, Senator McDonald. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members. Senator Price, if I might, I do have some questions.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Price.

SENATOR PRICE: Yes.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I think, by listening, I think you've answered some of my questions, Senator Price, but the committee amendment basically says that if you get the \$15,000 worth of loans, that can be forgiven a third at a time. In other words, if you...if you teach two years, a third of that loan will be forgiven; if you teach another two years, another third. So it's in increments.

SENATOR PRICE: Yes.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: You also talked about, I think, earlier on, that there would only be \$22,000 in this program. Did I misunderstand you?

SENATOR PRICE: In order to get some seed money to get started with this, we were being creative and so I went to the...I went to the nurses and the licensed practical nurses, and to get some money so we would at least have some money there, we have about \$22,000 to \$25,000 of money that is there, so we could underwrite one nurse right now. But that is just the bare minimum, you know? We're looking at raising much more money, but that was because of the graciousness of the nurse's license, is that we have the seed money.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That's what I thought I heard, Senator Price.

SENATOR PRICE: But we are going to...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That's all I wanted to know.

SENATOR PRICE: ...but we're going to seek more dollars for