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LB 146

SENATOR PRICE: ...then you can go to the federal level and tap into funds there.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay. That makes me think of another question. Do we have a fund set up in this so that we can take in that federal money, or do we need to?

SENATOR PRICE: I would have...I would have to ask...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: You don't...you don't have to answer, but you might...

SENATOR PRICE: I would have to ask the Fiscal Office. Right now we were just talking about this, this small amount, small but very important amount.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yeah, you might want to ask that. I don't know if it's necessary or not.

SENATOR PRICE: Yes. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, and thank you for bringing the bill. I'm going to be supportive.

SENATOR PRICE: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. On with discussion. Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, I rise in strong support of Senator Price's bill. This is a looming crisis in the state of Nebraska and the only thing wrong with this bill is it doesn't go far enough. This is a good start. It brings it to our attention, but in having conversations with nursing faculty, both at the facility at UNK and at UNMC, the faculty is aging and it is extremely difficult to attract faculty. Why would anyone who is making--and I will just pick out an arbitrary number of \$50,000 per year--give up an income for a couple of years to go back to school, pay your way through school, and then qualify for a job that pays