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

May 25, 2005 LB 577

early childhood services. Factor into this information that Nebraska has one of the highest rates of working moms. It doesn't take a social worker to tell you that early childhood education is going to be a great preventative method. It's going to be a method of helping children get a head start in where they need to go. I endorse this program, and I thank Senator Schimek for making it her priority bill. And I return the remainder of my time. Thank you, sir.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Howard. Senator Mines, your light is on next.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Raikes, I need your help. May I ask him to respond to questions, Mr. President?

SENATOR JANSSEN: Senator Raikes, will you respond, please?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes, I would.

SENATOR MINES: Senator Raikes, I'm over my head, and I need your help. Looking at the fiscal note, once we get to the fourth year of funding, the...I understand your amendment will shift funding to the out-biennium and extend from there? Is that right?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes, Senator. The funding through the state aid equalization formula would be...wouldn't begin until the first year of the out-biennium.

SENATOR MINES: Okay.

SENATOR RAIKES: And then it would only begin for four-year-olds in a program that had been operating according to all the rules for three years.

SENATOR MINES: Okay. And if that happens, is it right that I presume that the funding would begin at the \$9 million level for year one; \$15 million, year two? Or would we automatically shift to the \$23 million that...2007 and '08?