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FLOOR DEBATE

February 24, 2006 LB 1019

sections of the testimony by the representative from Omaha Public Schools, Mike Smith, and I'd like to also read into the record one portion of the testimony that he provided relative to the Help Education Lead to Prosperity Act, which was implemented in 1989, and it indicated that nine years ago the Nebraska Unicameral changed the payment process for the help funds so that, instead of individual payments, the help funds were contributed proportionately to the respective retirement system, both the state and Omaha plans. In this way, the Legislature has again honored the principle of equitable distribution of general revenue funds. And also, I think it's important to point out that within Senator Bourne's amendment, we're not speaking here of knee-jerk automatic General Fund appropriations to the Omaha fund. There has to be, within the language of the amendment, a demonstrated need by the actuarial studies within the Omaha plan for additional infusion of General Fund appropriations. So this is not a blanket or knee-jerk reaction to the state plan that if there is identified need for additional General Fund infusion that it automatically goes to the Omaha system. It does not. There has to be a demonstrated need from the Omaha system for the infusion of any General Funds to take place. Senator Cudaback, I'd like to yield the remainder of my time to Senator Bourne, if he so chooses.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bourne, would you...you have about 2.5 minutes.

SENATOR BOURNE: Yes, I will. Thank you. You know, I was thinking, actually I commented to Senator Thompson, wouldn't you rather have this discussion than listen to Senator Chambers filibuster another bill? At least...(laughter) at least in this discussion, there's some value. Listen, I think Senator Stuhr does a good job running the Retirement Committee. I will say that oftentimes, and I think she'd agree with this, we are pressed for time. We have these hearings over the noonhour. I did miss, I hate to say it, I did miss the other...the other...the Executive Session the other day because of a constituent matter I had to resolve. Rarely do I miss, but I did that day. Oftentimes, after we have Executive...or, excuse me, after we have our hearings, we have a very short Executive Session and, as I mentioned earlier, we tend to hustle off to