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

March 15, 2006 LB 690

SENATOR RAIKES: We had the state board, the coordinating commission, P-16 Initiative, Lincoln Public Schools, Nebraska Coalition for Education Equity, school boards, and the state education association.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, sounds like there is support. I just...like I say, I think it's a good idea.

SENATOR RAIKES: Your points are well made. I...you know, we haven't necessarily required a written versus a verbal,...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Right, that's...

SENATOR RAIKES: ...and I don't know that that would be important. We haven't required that the plan, if written, be submitted some place and evaluated by somebody, to make sure that...so there is, even the way it's written now, a considerable amount of flexibility granted to schools, in terms of how they would carry it out. But hopefully, even with that flexibility, it would be clear that you do, in fact, for each student, require the establishment at the beginning of high school, of a postsecondary objective, along with, all right, if you're going to achieve that objective, this is what has to be done by the time you get to the end of high school.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I assume it's to encourage the thought process at that level, because many students don't decide at all, sometimes, until later in their high school years what they're going to do, and it's too late. You're making...you're forcing these decisions earlier in the process, which I think is good, and making it written is probably better. But I'm skeptical, and I won't have to take the heat from this in the next year or two,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...if it comes back that there's going to have to be extra money, and I just, that's my caution.

SENATOR RAIKES: Okay.