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Excellence to Teaching Program. Is that accurate?

SENATOR RAIKES: Probably a way I would prefer to say it, Senator, is that we've got some money generated via the lottery that is designated for education purposes, and we're taking a relatively...with this amendment, we'd be taking a relatively smaller amount of that money and using it for distance education, so that we could take some of that money and use it to support the Attracting Excellence Program.

SENATOR SMITH: And I would assume it's your argument that the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program fits within the objectives of the Education Innovation objectives, that the lottery dollars are to be spent on?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes, that would be my...

SENATOR SMITH: And the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program, you said, forgives loans for teachers in shortage areas?

SENATOR RAIKES: Right.

SENATOR SMITH: What else can you tell me about that actual program, in terms of innovation?

SENATOR RAIKES: The focus being on the word "innovation"?

SENATOR SMITH: I hope so, yes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Okay. And that is, in fact, I think, the title that was given to that whole program. I guess I would tell you that that has been used, or that pot of money, if that's a fair description, has been used for a number of education-related issues. I'm not ducking the question. But for example, it's a source of money we use for need-based aid for postsecondary students. So I would say probably that there's a parallel here between that and the Attracting Excellence to Teaching. So if the issue you're raising is consistency with the purpose of the monies and how they're being used, that would be the connection I would offer you.