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FLOOR DEBATE

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has talked about. How many of you...how many of my colleagues realize that funding for the smaller schools in rural Nebraska will actually decrease in this bill? It will. There is a tax increase, as Senator Brashear told you. There are concepts in this bill that we haven't even begun to flesh out. I, in good conscience, will not support a cloture motion because I don't believe that we should go forward with this bill as it is today. I don't...I appreciate what Senator Brashear argued, that we can discuss this over the interim, I think that makes sense. But I don't think we have to move the bill off of General File to do that. I would commit to him and to all of my colleagues here that I will do everything that I can to assist and help, if it's a compromise or what, or what we need to do over the next 90 days, but I won't be voting for cloture. I think mine was the last light on. I see there is a cloture motion. I would yield my time to Senator Chambers if he would be so inclined.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Very collegial and I'm not being sarcastic or anything else. Members of the Legislature, I guess we understand this differently. I thought the notion was that the bill would be passed, that a special session would be called down the line, then the Legislature could decide whether it was going to reaffirm or take that back. So maybe we're not all understanding the same thing. But I'm not one who ever has voted for cloture. There are motions up there to end the debate. And this issue is one that is very thorny. I'm not going to suggest how anybody ought to vote on this motion. It's clear that if the bill does not move today, it's over. But it's also clear that the Speaker has this as a super priority and he can determine the order of motions and amendments, when they'll be taken. If there's a motion up there to move the bill without further debate, I believe that motion takes 25 votes. Cloture takes 33. So if cloture fails, the bill still has to be off General File tonight unless there's some bill over there which will be stripped and the contents of this bill inserted in that one. But something has to be decided about this bill tonight. The Speaker said if cloture fails, he will reschedule the bill. I think it would have to be rescheduled today anyway. So if the cloture vote fails...and, again, I may be misunderstanding what was stated. Oh, there is a motion to suspend the rules. That would take 30 votes rather