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LB 931

of math and science teachers in Nebraska. As I tried to explain last year this is an area that is pretty hard to deal with today with teachers on a salary schedule. A number of years ago we would simply pay a math and science teacher more money if we needed this math and science teacher, though the salary schedule made it very difficult to do. So this would be an encouragement for the person to go into math and science teaching. Then the loan pay-back provisions. Loans must be paid back under four circumstances: the recipient quits college, recipient quits the math and science program, recipient finishes the math or science program but does not teach in Nebraska within one year, or quits teaching math or science in Nebraska secondary schools. A repayment schedule is to be devised by the Department of Education to a required two enrollment period loans to be paid per year. Under no circumstances shall the recipient be given longer than three years to repay. Again, he doesn't repay unless he does not teach. Interest is figured at eight percent per annum from the day the obligation becomes due. Any loans advanced under last year's act shall be administered according to the provisions of this act where this act does not conflict with previous loan agreements. There may have been a few loans on it, but not very many because most of the people that were involved in student loans had decided that the way the bill came out last year was just unworkable. A forgiveness clause. Balance of loan is forgiven if the recipient dies or is permanently disabled. We have an evaluation clause. After five years the department shall evaluate the effectiveness of the act, and report back to the Legislature and the Governor. It has an equal opportunity clause. It also includes the emergency clause so that the students can make arrangement for these loans as soon as possible. I think it is a very good way to encourage some of our students that are going into computer science, and math and science, having them go into education rather than going into business. I think we definitely need some kind of an incentive to attract more capable, more of them, more math and science teachers. I hope you will support the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Newell.