

SENATOR BEUTLER: We may have something set up from general appropriations of that nature, but certainly nothing set up from a specific identified source of revenue. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vickers is next, but may I introduce some guests in the north balcony of Senator Chambers. There are 60 fourth grade students from Walnut Hill School in Omaha and with them are three parents and six teachers. Would you please stand and be recognized by the Legislature. Thank you. Senator Vickers, then Senator Barrett, then Senator Warner. Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, I, too, rise to support Senator Chambers in his motion and I at the same time need to indicate that I think LB 333 is an important bill. I think the intent of LB 333 is very good. I think it is appropriate that the state, as pointed out by Senator Chambers, does set a higher priority in the caring and the prevention of child abuse among our children. But the same time I say that I think the fee structure outlined in LB 333 is totally unfair. I would ask you to look up at the balcony. Look at those children that are here. Do you believe that only their parents should pay for their education? Do you believe that the need for education is a societal need and that everybody should pay or only people that have children should pay? It's almost the same issue. It occurs to me that because the concern is that we cannot get the funds from the Appropriations Committee for various things, maybe we should say that in order to fund education we should have a \$20,000 charge for every birth certificate so that you, and then build up a fund, so that you in effect pay for the education the moment the child is born. I don't think we really would want to do that. Maybe we should say that only people with Ph.D.'s should pay for education because obviously they have been educated or set up a graduated scale. I can think of wonderful amendments. Maybe we should find a vehicle and we can fund education after all since we can't get the funds from the Appropriations Committee to do it. We could perhaps have a graduated scale so the higher the education that you've got, the more you have to pay for education. The lower education you have, the less you have to pay because obviously you didn't use it as much. It would be wonderful for those of us who didn't complete their high school education I suspect. But the fact of the matter is we believe that the