

had and now they would like to get into the state system. However, they've been trying to get this particular item done for these, State Department of Education employees have been trying to get this done for five years now and every time at the last minute some darn thing happens that the bill is killed or something, it doesn't get passed because of time and that sort of thing, every time it has been killed or not passed for some reason or other they have been just left hanging out there. That is the 53 employees of the State Department of Education. It also solves a little problem, setting out whether or not...excuse me, I'm sorry, setting out the formula by which they can, any teacher can handle their sick leave. They can get into the system at age...any teacher can get into the system at age 25 rather than to wait till age 25 and then two years thereafter before they can get in. There is any number of reasons why we should not honor this particular motion. We should reject this motion and pass this bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Nelson, then Senator Lundy.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I probably will support this bill, but I thought it was no more than maybe right that I refresh some of your memories from some of the information that we had some time ago. Senator Goodrich's statement that this would probably save enough by letting the burned out teachers go, I say that is the administrator's job, but that's not always carried through. I will give you an exact example. In Grand Island I will take the general part of the budget. That does not include janitors, special ed and so on which is only really about half, 6.8 million of a \$13,134,000 budget for teachers. They have had an early retirement program for the last three years. Actually in reduction in salaries of teachers that were replaced by younger, cheaper teachers it is \$110,539. Accordingly, the Grand Island school system which is actually about half of their retirement and their budget again, compares to \$85,175 having had to have been put in the budget so we're only talking a difference of \$110,539 saving and a cost of \$85,175. Might I also remind you that their entire budget for the teachers is \$13,134,000 so \$110 (sic) saved is not much. However, what they offer is about \$600 a year for retiring at age 60 and it comes times the years taught so it's approximately 20 or \$21,000 outright cold cash to do as what you please and then it goes down if you retire at age 64 at \$350, so it reduces down to 10, 11, 12. So it has not been that good of a benefit and so with the benefits in LB 325 and on top of that, I would say that there would be a considerable number in the Grand