

recognize that you come from a large school system and it is easy to meet accreditation based on numbers, but if you come from a small school system, it is not that easy to meet it based on numbers. Quality, it seems to me, is a better measurement.

SENATOR HARTNETT: I guess I see that, what you have described so far, as a function of the local school district to do on their own rather than asking, you know, the whole state to do it, you know, from what you've described so far.

SENATOR VICKERS: Well, it is a state responsibility to set the accreditation standards and if we're going to change the accreditation standards to this measurement, then we'd better have something to base it on.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Don't the State Department have...Education have \$30,000 they can...for this purpose?

SENATOR VICKERS: As I indicated earlier, Senator Hartnett, if you can find \$30,000 from some other program, fine. But this program is being specifically and line item, if you'll look at your Appropriations bill, says there are no funds for it to implement 994 period. So even if they could find it some place else, they couldn't use it because we, as a Legislature, are telling them you can't.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Pirsch, please, then Senator Higgins.

SENATOR PIRSCH: A question of Senator Vickers, also. You answered many of my questions with Senator Hartnett, but raised some others also. The \$30,000, is that travel for the Department of Education? Is that salaries for that person or persons who will be doing the physical travel?

SENATOR VICKERS: I assume there would be some travel, obviously there will be some travel money involved. I don't think it would be salaries because I think they would be using people that are already on board. And I've got a breakdown of the workshops. Originally they asked for \$40,000. I'm only asking for 30. I'll tell you the process. I said, how much money does it take to...or how much have you got budgeted for this? They said \$40,000. I