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- I want to **express appreciation** for all of the work that has been done by this committee, the interim committee, other legislators, and stakeholders in regards to this student-based funding formula.
- This version of **the model is a significant improvement** over the versions that we saw earlier on in the process. I believe that is due to those that have been working on the model taking input from stakeholders
- We have some **small concerns** regarding the inclusion of the career ladder in the bill.
  - I understand the desire to include the career ladder in the bill due to its popularity and support, but what was so positive about the career ladder is that **it was directly linked to funding and that it projected out 5 years**. This helped districts and teachers know what to expect in the future, but **those factors of the career ladder are not included in this bill**.
  - While we appreciate the ability to negotiate our own salary schedules, as we are currently doing, we are **concerned that mandating the minimum salaries of the first rungs of the resident and professional** portions of the career ladder may become unfunded mandates, especially if these teacher-based amounts are raised without making compensating raises to the student-based foundation.
- **Again, thank you** for all the work that has gone into this arduous process.
- Stand for questions