

February 24, 1975

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: I am sorry. Could you repeat that, Senator Lewis?

SENATOR RICHARD LEWIS: These adjustments cannot be made then from this proposal of yours?

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: No. No.

SENATOR RICHARD LEWIS: Will the information be available so that the adjustment can be made at the next funding period?

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Yes, and what we need to do and this is going to be one of the substantive amendments to 403 that I am going to suggest, that not only for this year but any time we are involved in recouping of state dollars that were paid erroneously or without justification, those payments will come back to the states...to the state through an adjustment of the fourth quarter payment on special education and to make sure that we get those adjustments back, in case we have overpaid to the point we can't even make that, I suggest we go to other state receipts given to local school districts, state aid to education, reapportionment and that will be done and that is an amendment that I, personally, am going to suggest that we put on LB 403, to see the state is not in a position where it would pay out money and not be in a position to recoup it in case of an overpayment.

SENATOR RICHARD LEWIS: Well, Senator Lewis, I wouldn't want to insist upon this being sent to a public hearing but, it seems to me, there are many, many questions that keep cropping up here and I would like to see it go to a public hearing.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Well, Senator Lewis, I said we have an alternative vehicle to do that with. We had 456 which we heard on special education we can put up there. A public hearing would further delude the timetable to the extent that if we set one, and we are talking three or four weeks down the road, we'd be into the first of May again and the situation is critical. I believe we need to move it on. In fact, if I can move the bill today, I am going to suggest we expedite it.

SENATOR RICHARD LEWIS: I have no more questions.

PRESIDENT: Senator Anderson.

SENATOR ANDERSON: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I'd like to indicate my support of Senator Lewis' desire to get this bill moving. I have noted some of the reservations that have been expressed here and I think a lot of these reservations do need to be paid attention to most seriously. I think they need to be respected and I think they point out some of the gravity of the problem that we are dealing with. I think that a step such as this should be taken with extreme reluctance on the part of the Legislature because it represents us taking things into our own hands, so to speak. I, also, think that the situation in a lot of school districts with a lot of vendors of these particular services is of an emergency nature. They have been rendering service and they haven't been getting any money for them. We have school districts that have been using up their reserves in attempting to pay the bills. We have got school districts that have been