

March 6, 1979

LB 59

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Clerk, we have a motion on the desk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers moves to amend LB 59: Read amendment found on page 761, Legislative Journal, offered by Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I think there should be the language to remain just as it is and whatever evidence they have accepted in the past of a child's birth and age or whatever should be accepted. There are many circumstances under which either a birth certificate may not be readily obtainable or certain things may be on that birth certificate which could work to the detriment of the child throughout his or her school career. So I think we ought to reinstate the word "may". We should reinstate the word "may" and strike the word "shall".

SENATOR NICHOL: I have three lights on, Senator Kahle, Senator Lamb and Senator Johnson. Did any of you wish to speak to the Chambers' amendment? Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to support the Chambers amendment. This bill as it stands now without the Chambers amendment is one more case where we are taking away local control from the local school district. If this local school district already has the power to require these physicals and the immunizations and under the bill as written without the Chambers amendment this control is taken away from those people and the state is saying that it shall happen. Now there are some other parts of the bill which are in question and one of them is who pays for the immunization? It says the parents shall pay, but it also says if the parents are unable to pay, the state shall pay as far as funds are available. So what do we do if funds are not available? These are some of the questions that are not addressed in the bill and I urge you to accept the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Johnson, did you wish to speak to the Chambers amendment?

SENATOR JOHNSON: Yes. Mr. President, members of the body, I wanted to respond to Senator Lamb's remarks and something in Senator Stoney's on the availability of funds. Our welfare program participates in a program known as the early periodic diagnostic screening and testing program which allows every child who is a welfare recipient to have an annual physical examination and also allows medical costs for whatever defects