

March 20, 1979

LB 425

SENATOR SIMON: Yes, I do, just to close.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay.

SENATOR SIMON: There has been a period of about a week since the last discussion so I do want to make a couple of comments to Senator Cullan.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Are you closing in addition to...?

SENATOR SIMON: I am going to close. Yes, I am going to close. The problem was brought up because of a particular situation in the Elkhorn school district. Perhaps, Senator Cullan, if that problem had not arisen we could take the leisurely time to do an interim study which we are going to do anyway as I understand on transportation and we could take that time and take care of a policy in terms of next year. The passing of this amendment and this bill is not going to affect that policy at all. It is permissive that merely allows the local school boards to be able to take that option in terms of paying for additional kids. Now let me again reiterate the particular problem that I have in my district and that is the fact that because the Elkhorn school district has grown by such astronomical proportions they cannot afford to bus all the kids in the district so they have contracted out for the kids that live past four miles. I have about seventy children that live in a trailer home, so obviously not a rich area of the district. The parents, many of them have four or five or six kids. They are getting rather large bills at the end of the month from the company that it's been contracted out to. They can not afford to pay the bills. Contrary to what Senator Cullan believes, in private with my discussion with him, there are kids that have not gone to school. They have sat out of school for a week or two because the parents can not afford to send them. Again I can not emphasize the point, it is permissive in nature. Let the local school board make that decision. The further amendment will eliminate some objections and let's say the whole issue. This is not going to hurt any particular school board at all. I move for adoption of the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is to advance 425 to E & R for engrossment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting to advance the bill to E & R for engrossment. Have you all voted? We are voting to advance the bill. Have you all voted? We are voting to advance LB 425. We are voting to advance the bill to E & R for engrossment. Have you all voted? Record the vote.