

and we made that commitment and I submit to you if somebody has told you that this is going to be a less dollar figure if we do this, they are absolutely incorrect and misled because almost under any condition this state is going to have to provide the financial wherewithal and the best and proper place to put it is under the public schools of the State of Nebraska. After all, they are charged with the task of educating every child regardless of their ability. Senator Kahle a moment ago said that he feels the parents should have a major financial responsibility and I submit to you the parents do and many times pay and pay and pay and pay but not all parents have the same financial capability and don't wish they had that financial capability to do it because they would apply every dollar they could to try to give that child dignity and you cannot truly enjoy dignity nor honor unless you have a certain amount of intellect, a certain amount of skill because that gives you a certain quality. I submit to you that this body spends millions of dollars a year for the incarcerated where the recidivism rate is over 70%. We seldom take note of this but do we ever take note of something as infinitesimal as giving a young child a chance for a few thousand dollars a year and some of you should see some of these young people who have been in these programs early and see what the result has been. It is amazing. I doubt that many of you in here know what a Down's syndrome child is. You probably don't but they can do amazing things with this child at an early time in their life so they become totally productive so that they can have that degree of dignity which they are entitled to and if we are going to defer the most important time in a child's life to a later time, then we are indeed penalizing these children far beyond what they justly deserve. Now as an individual senator I cannot stand here and live with my conscience if I am going to allow a few dollars to stand in the way of providing every child in this state his opportunity or her opportunity. Most of the schools in this state today are geared up and ready to go. As Senator Sieck said, rule 54 was signed by the Governor the other day and I sat on many a meeting on rule 54, reviewed it. It is not perfect yet but it will be. I talked to the superintendent of York. That is a rather small class B school system. One of the most enlightened superintendents I have met in recent weeks. He said, we are ready and the members of the committee that heard that bill that day heard Mr. Toms say that. We are going to take over the CDC Center in York and we are going to manage it. There are other schools that are going to contract with agencies all