

SENATOR MARESH: ...probably this isn't germane to this bill but I would like to ask a question of Senator Koch. He is Chairman of the Education Committee.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Koch, will you yield to a question from Senator Maresh?

SENATOR MARESH: Senator Koch, are school buses allowed to transport school children to, say, swimming classes or something like that during the summer? I had a school superintendent when I visited with him about this bill, he wondered if we could allow the children to use these buses in summer to transfer them from a smaller town to a bigger town for swimming lessons.

SENATOR KOCH: Yes, the school board can. It is a decision at their level.

SENATOR MARESH: Very good. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I take strong exception to the first part of the proposed amendment. I do not know anywhere in the state where congregate meals are being held after school hours. As a matter of fact, they are always held at noon in our state currently, and since we are only funding one congregate meal during the school day, it would be a waste of energy to not make use of the vehicles at the noon hour. I know that Senator...Senator, could I have your attention, Senator Haberman, for just a moment. Senator Haberman, if one of the children would go into a diabetic coma on the school bus, you would take that school bus to the hospital the same way you would if an elderly person would have something major go wrong but that would not be an everyday occurrence and it would not be happening five days a week but congregate meals which are planned at noon are meeting five days a week and this is something that would assist those who are more than just walking distance from one of the centers for congregate meals. So I will ask to amend the amendment to the point that we would strike the first part through "federal or state funds." and then only adopt the second section which starts in line 22.

SENATOR CLARK: Will you write the amendment out and bring it up please? We have an amendment to the amendment. Does anyone wish to speak to the amendment to the amendment?

SENATOR MARSH: I am separating the question, yes. As I explained before, one of the very fine programs in many,