

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, I rise to support Senator Koch and this motion. As he so eloquently pointed out if you are in favor of holding down the cost to the property tax payers in the State of Nebraska, if you are in favor of not causing duplication in the delivery of the services mandated by this legislature to the schools, then you certainly should be in favor of LB 317. 317 sets a procedure up so that duplication will not take place in providing a . . . or residential services for these...for this program, and it also puts a procedure in place where the small school district, and there are some of those out there, and I have one or two in my district, that find themselves in a position with one or two handicapped children in their boundaries, they have a tremendous cost to try to provide the services mandated to them, by us, but at the same time not mandated to the OMR's. So the OMR can hold a school district up for any amount they want to and the local small school district has to absorb the cost and I think that is fundamentally wrong. I agree with Senator Koch. I don't believe the Governor understood the ramifications of LB 317. It is not necessarily new dollars, it is a shift of dollars. I urge this body's adoption of Senator Koch's motion.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Would Senator Koch please yield to a couple of questions for clarification.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Koch, would you respond please.

SENATOR KOCH: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Senator Koch, how much money was supposedly in LB 317?

SENATOR KOCH: \$383,000.....\$383,510.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Well I am sympathetic with your problem. But, if I understand you right, if we override the Governor's veto that....\$383,000 would then go to mental retardation.

SENATOR KOCH: It would go then only based upon the fact they house certain kind of students and could verify it. Then they would receive that for residential care.

SENATOR HIGGINS: See Senator Koch the reason I would have to oppose it is, yesterday the Governor vetoed over \$700,000