

I think Senator Wagner had a bill putting all of the statutes dealing with reimbursement for mileage into the same area so that it was provided for in Section 84-306.2003 for state employees which is 21¢ a mile. The Section 10 of LB 942 would lower that rate to 18¢ and I believe if I read the A bill correctly and the budget booklet correctly and I think Senator Warner could comment on this and he probably will, I think it was about \$80,000 or something of that nature if I remember correctly. Now I recognize the Appropriations difficult struggle trying to come up with some funds and I appreciate the fact that they were having to look every place and that \$80,000 are \$80,000 but I also point out to the body that parents of handicapped children have to pay the same price for gas for cars, for licenses, including the \$3.75 additional to fund the State Patrol on their registration, insurance and various other things that any of the rest of us do plus the fact that obviously parents of handicapped children have other unique experiences or expenses that it would seem to me that it would be rather unfortunate for us to in order to get more dollars in the general fund, some \$80,000, would lower the transportation allowance to these parents and guardians of these handicapped children. So all I am saying is that we should strike Section 10 of 942 and allow that \$80,000 to be funded through the sales and income tax which if we do not do these types of things would be, in my opinion that the Board of Equalization would have little choice following this session but to raise those funds as I think they should be raised right straight up front from the taxpayers. So with that, Mr. Chairman, I just would move for the adoption of my amendment to strike Section 10 of LB 942.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President, members of the body, I support Senator Vickers in this move. Now this section proposes to reduce the mileage reimbursement for parents who transport their children to special education programs from the rate paid state employees currently 21¢ a mile to a flat rate of 18¢ a mile. Now parents are only reimbursed when they are transporting their children to a school other than their normal neighborhood school. In other words, if they have classes within their own school, they are not paid reimbursement but if they have to go to another school because the school that they are attending or are part of cannot give them the education that is needed and they have to go to a different school, then the state has to pick the mileage up. Now the most recent figures that I have seen on the cost of driving a car is in the excess of 30¢ per mile so both state employees and parents are already contributing one-third