

packet, which either you have or will be getting in a minute, which has some articles in regard to the problems being encountered. We should point out, I think, that Minnesota is the only state that has adopted this program and it's not fully operative, even in Minnesota. They are phasing it in, they are phasing it in. And it will be another year, I believe, before it's fully phased in. Already we have a number of statements from officials up there about the problems they are encountering. I would suggest you look at those, look at those closely. We have one statement that somebody circulated here, not I, from the fact...a Minnesota teacher official says free choices hurt. It's on your desk, I'm not sure, RH, whose RH? Is that Rex? Anyway, it says, if you read there, "'It's being touted as this great reform,' MEA Treasurer Judy Schaubach of Red Wing said, but no bad schools have closed and education has not improved." And that's from the treasurer of the NSEA (sic) of Minnesota. In regard to this amendment, question, Senator Baack.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Baack, would you respond?

SENATOR LAMB: On page 2, lines 19, 21, does not...it requires the district to accept any student, except in those cases, except for overcrowding. Is that not true? Is that the only exception?

SENATOR BAACK: Yes, they have to be able to justify that their programs are full.

SENATOR LAMB: Overcrowding is the only reason they cannot transfer.

SENATOR BAACK: Overcrowding or not offering a program in a certain area, they do not have to start up new programs to accept students, they can do that...and they can have just certain...

SENATOR LAMB: But, but...

SENATOR BAACK: ...and they can just have certain schools that are full...

SENATOR LAMB: But that does not...Actually, though the overcrowding is the only criteria.