

SPEAKER BARRETT: Amendment number 5 by Senator Lamb is adopted. The Chair is pleased to take just a moment to introduce some special guests under the south balcony, a former member of this body, Mr. Dale Payne and his wife from Gretna. Mr. and Mrs. Payne, please. Thank you, Dale, we're glad to have you with us. Also, in the Chamber under the south balcony, I believe I see former Senator Richard Proud and his wife from Omaha, author and former Speaker of this body, Senator Proud and Mrs. Proud. Thank you. We're glad to have you with us, Dick. Mr. Speaker...or, Mr. Clerk, the next item.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lamb would move to amend the committee amendments. Senator, I have AM256 in front of me.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Yes, yes, my last amendment for this morning. This is a very important amendment. One of the flaws of the bill is that the student does not have to have a bona fide reason for transferring. Nothing in the bill says that he has to have a bona fide reason for transferring to another school. He has to have a reason, but it doesn't have to be a good reason, doesn't have to be a viable reason. This amendment states that he has to, he has to have a reason. Such application shall state why the applicant desires approval of a transfer and how such transfer will result in the improvement of educational opportunities of the student. I would direct your attention to a statement that Mr. Stroh made in the World-Herald, he was quoted in there. Mr. Stroh is a recently retired Millard's superintendent, saying that Nebraska should include a requirement that students show how educational opportunities would improve if they transferred. That makes sense, he says. The application should state exactly why the student wants to change. If it's not for education, then why are we doing it? Beyond that then, this amendment provides that the resident school district and the district to which the student wants to transfer shall jointly make the decision as to whether or not this is in the best interest of the student. After the student has stated his reasons for wanting to transfer, then the representatives of these two school districts decide whether...if whether or not this is a valid reason. Then if it is, well then he gets to transfer. If it's not, he does not get to transfer. This puts some responsibility into the bill. This takes the "willy-nilliness" out of it. This