

we debated the bill. What this does is it changes the funding mechanism. The funding mechanism, as you will recall, was such that we had the resident district putting their per pupil costs into the state option fund, then the option district taking their per pupil cost out of this fund. Senator Lamb has asked the Attorney General an opinion on this as to whether or not that is constitutional because you had the state involved dealing with property taxes. So in answer to that, and an answer to another of Senator Lamb's concerns that what we're doing is financially strapping the resident districts so much by making them pay their total per pupil cost is that then they would not be able to change their program and develop their program so that they could keep the rest of the students that they have there. So what this amendment does is it provides that the resident district would pay an amount equal to the needs factor of the equalization formula that we have in the State of Nebraska and that needs factor this year is \$1,045. That is the needs factor this year that every school district has that needs factor. That is the needs factor that they use in determining equalization. Then you would add to that the foundation factor which is this year is \$327 per student. So each resident district and if the student was a grade school student in grades one through six, would transfer an amount of money of \$1,372. The resident district would pay the option district that amount of money. That would be statewide. Every transfer, every option student, every resident district would pay that same amount of money. That's what we would have there. Then within this formula also is the weighted factor because we use a weighting factor in our formula. What this says is that if the student is a kindergarten student who takes a lot less money to educate, you take that, the factor that they would have to send times .5. So you would get half of that for a kindergarten student. That's the way we do foundation aid and equalization aid now. If the student is in the first through the sixth grade, they get the amount, \$1,372. If they are in the grades seven through eight, they get 1.2 times that amount, and these are all set in the equalization formula that we have right now. If it's a high school student they would get 1.4 times that amount. So for a high school student a school district where the student is transferring out of would send approximately \$1,920 to the district that the student opts to. After that, the school district that the student resided in would still receive their foundation aid. They would still get that aid back so you'd be talking in the case of a grade school student, the resident district would send \$1,372 to the option