

equivalent to equalization aid. You're changing this amendment, deals directly...talk about a whole distribution formula for state aid and lots of things. We don't know how much it will cost. I mean whether or not you like the bill or don't like the bill, I think the Dierks amendment is a bad amendment because you just simply...the state is going to pick up the whole cost of the thing. Well, if we want to pick up the whole cost for education in this state, that may be something we should do, we shouldn't only be picking up the costs for somebody that wants to use school choice, we should be doing it for all students. I don't think the Dierks amendment really, even if you're opposed to the bill and you want to see it pass, you shouldn't be for the Dierks amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Yes, Mr. President and members, I rise to support the amendment by Senator Dierks. I think one thing has been overlooked here. Some people have said there is no penalty if there is not a monetary penalty of the district, and I disagree. I think any time you have a student transferring out of the district that is a penalty, a definite penalty that will be recognized by the district, by the school board of the resident district, by the people in that resident district, by everyone in the community. That the very fact that a student wants to transfer out is a penalty. So, as I mentioned yesterday on the floor, we do have a precedent for this sort of an amendment, and that is the bill I had a number of years ago which was passed, which said, in essence, that if transfer is appropriate, if transfer is appropriate, then the sending district should not be penalized in a monetary manner and the state would pick up that cost. And I explained that bill in some detail yesterday. So this is the situation that we find ourselves in now. This is a good amendment. This would allow those students that logically should be allowed to transfer to do so without negatively impacting the students that are left. I think that is adequate reason for supporting this amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, followed by Senator Dierks.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. Those in favor of ceasing debate please vote aye,