

to work. And what it tries to do is it tries to lay the framework saying that we don't want school districts just automatically sending their kids to either of these schools without the appropriate filing of an individual education plan and going through the appropriate process before they are referred to this school. My amendment just spells some of that language out. The language is in several sections of statute. You will see some new language on page 1 of the amendment and the language reads, "who cannot receive an appropriate special education program in their resident school districts as provided for in Section 79-3320." This language is already in the statute. I am only putting this...I am taking this language, putting it in the purpose statute so that we know the school district will have to go through this proper process as they determine whether or not these students ought to go to either the School for the Deaf or the School for the Visually Impaired (sic). Another section of the bill...when you get on...of the amendment, I mean, when you get on page 3 it is dealing with transportation. Right now, Nebraska statutes say that parents are to furnish transportation to these schools. That is not the practice in the State of Nebraska. We have not been doing that. The school districts have been paying those costs. This simply deletes the responsibility of the transportation from the parents and puts it on the school district which is what we are doing now. And there is another...another, see, in Section 2, on page 3, it says you strike the words "acoustically handicapped" and insert the words "hearing impaired", and all that is is to update and correct the terminology that is used now for the hearing impaired. And we also strike...in that section, we also strike the words "of good moral character" because they have never been able to use it. There is no definition for "of good moral character", therefore, it's unnecessary for the bill. The rest of it deals purely with the transportation issue in that it says that the state will be...or that the school district will be liable for the transportation to the district in case that the parents can't pay and the school district doesn't have the money then the state would have to...the state would have to use their money to do that. I think, with that, I would just urge the adoption of the amendment. I know that, I think, Senator Hall has some questions about the amendment. I will be glad to answer those.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Hall, on the Baack amendment, followed by Senators Nelson and Wehrbein.