

May 3, 1989

LB 813

frankly, do not know, Senator Hall, if 149,000 and 165,000 is an appropriate figure but, obviously, there will be some cost. At an absolute minimum, there wasn't any question in my mind but what we needed to at least get in the funds...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR WARNER: ...for adequate development of the rules and regulations and the initial things that have to be done because there would be, I suspect, some cost there but I don't think those are totally in place. If they are, I am not sure that they are, but in any event, depending on any rules and regs that might be developed from this, it could have an impact also upon that final cost, but, again, we wouldn't know that until reimbursement was requested by local school districts.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hannibal, please, followed by Senator Hall.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Mr. President and members, Senator Warner has explained the committee's position on the issue and that is, basically, one of no position because we did not have the issue brought before us because, as Senator Hall pointed out in his handout of chronology, that the whole issue of loaning books or actually reimbursing books to the public schools so that private students can receive those books free of charge has been in the courts for a long period of time. One point that should be pointed out, Senator Hall, that the Appropriations Committee did not increase the earmarking from the \$100 to \$850. It is still \$100, and the analyst suggests that possibly the earmarking language is a little confusing, but we did not take a position on it. It is still the \$100 that was put in there so that the case could be tested. And I am not very well versed on this either. It did not come before the committee in lengthy discussion, as was pointed out by Senator Hall and Senator Warner, but it appears to me that we do have a bill now that has been found constitutional, LB 757, and Senator Warner has pointed out to you that now we find out that it is constitutional, it becomes somewhat of a policy issue, and I have dealt with representatives representing private schools a little bit on this issue since the Supreme Court decision came out, and I had posed some questions to the representative, and I would like to pose some of those to you, Senator Hall, if you would respond.