

And at the present time, what this does is provides that the state will pay for the cost of education for state wards. Right now the current policy provides that the state pays for, number one, those state wards who are educated in public school districts other than the district the ward resided in at the time he or she became a state ward which is key to this legislation. And secondly, placed in a state, in a county detention home or three educated in a special education facility which is located outside the geographical area of the state ward's residence home district. The key is the first of those three, educated in a public school district other than the district the ward resided in at the time he or she became a state ward. I won't read the whole list, but just as an example, we have people we are now paying for education for kids at the Children's Square U.S.A. in Council Bluffs, kids in the eastern Nebraska Human Services Agency, the Alpha School in Omaha, Educational Service Unit #1 in Wakefield, Nebraska, Scottsbluff Educational Service Unit #13, et cetera. They're from York, they're from Beatrice, they're from Papillion, they're from Kearney, they're from Sioux Falls, from Sioux City, a number of schools. What is interesting is that if you happen to live in a school district that has an institution that can provide this very important and necessary help in the education of that disabled person and that child goes to that particular institution to be educated, the state will not pay simply because you have the fortune or in this case, the misfortune of having that special education unit in your district. The state does pay, in fact, for the education of everyone else except for that. And what this bill provides for is the, I think, reasonable and necessary obligation of the state to help those local school districts out where these kinds of special education needs exists for all of the kids, not just those you ship out from your own school district, sometimes to another city, sometimes even to another state, but allow that special education to be provided in your district. I'm not sure how we ever got started with this and I'm not sure whose idea it was that if that special education facility happened to exist in that school district, the state shouldn't pay but it seems to be an obvious form of discrimination against that local school district which probably to begin with tried to meet those important unmet needs. But as a result of that is discriminated against by the state because the state won't pay for that special program and need as long as it exists in that school district. It affects some of us more than others. It seems like it's a fair and reasonable recommendation. There is an