

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of Senator Baack's amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Senator Horgan would move to amend the bill, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Horgan.

SENATOR HORGAN: Thank you, Madam President and members, this amendment which has been handed out to you by the Pages will allow nonresident tuition paying students who have attended a school district other than their home district since 1989-90 school year to become option students. I offer this amendment on behalf of those students who have chosen to attend a school other than their home district school and to allow these students who are currently paying tuition to become option students and not to be under the tuition portion. This amendment will allow for continuity in the educational programs being offered to these students and specifically addresses a concern of about 11 families that lived in the OPS school district yet are sending their children to the District 66 schools. I need to tell you that the OPS school district is opposed to this amendment. The District 66 school district is neutral on it, but what it will do is it will affect about 28 students, 11 or 12 families. Currently, these families who live in the OPS district are sending their students to District 66 schools and it seems under the choice provision that we ought to allow them to continue with that option and I would be happy to answer any specific questions you might have about this. Otherwise I would ask for your support of the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Horgan. I will now recognize Senator Rasmussen followed by Senator Nelson and Hall. Senator Rasmussen.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Yes, Madam President, as Senator Horgan alluded to, this is sort of a difficult situation in Omaha to try and balance the option program with the desegregation plan in the Omaha public schools. And I know for a fact that the West Side Community Schools have been working earnestly with QPS to ensure that what is done with the school option program does