

That's what the amendment did. The problem is that there were a couple of...there were a number of things said on the floor of the Legislature, said that these students were not used in the count of the desegregation plan any way for Omaha. I think that's a little bit deceiving, because they don't actually count when they do their desegregation plan. Their desegregation plan is based on the transfer of students, and it's based basically on whether or not it...the transfer of a student enhances integration, that's what it's based on. They don't necessarily have any specific counts in place that say there are this many number of whites, and this many number of blacks. They have percentages of students that are in schools, and the transfer is allowed or disallowed, depending on how that one transfer affects those percentages. And that's how they do it. They don't base it on counts. There was another thing said on the floor of the Legislature that said, well, it's like parochial school students are not part of the count. Well, they actually are, if you...they're actually part of the system, though, because if one of those students would want to transfer, they would still be viewed by the Omaha Public School System as being a student at the school that they would have been assigned to, had they been part of the Omaha Public School System. So they are actually part of the system, even though they maybe attend a parochial school. What I didn't want to happen with this was that later on a Legislature would come in and a Legislature would look at some of the language that was put into the record on 207, when it was being debated on Select File, and see that, well, these parochial school students aren't now part of the count, so if they sit out one session out of parochial school, then they can automatically use choice to go to another school. I didn't want to see that happen, because that would be...that would be under...ing the deseg. plan for the Omaha Public Schools. So these things I need...I think need to be part of the record, that one of the fa...one of the goals of choice was not, I emphasize that, was not to undermine any desegregation plan that's in existence. All the other states that have open enrollment now all have the same kinds of language in their law saying that desegregation plans definitely take precedence over open enrollment, and that any school that has a desegregation plan has to be allowed the flexibility to keep their desegregation plan in place as they are able to apply choice to their district. So what I'm asking you to do is I'm asking you to bring back LB 207 and to strike the Horgan amendment, and then at that point we would...then I would be asking you to strike the Horgan amendment from LB 207. I would be happy to