

April 6, 1992

LB 1001

that family unit. And I don't need to say anymore, just that I urge the body to allow the families to stay together just in their choice of education, if you will. With that, I would yield the balance of my time to Senator Baack.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Baack.

SPEAKER BAACK: Mr. Chairman and colleagues, I, too, rise in support of this amendment in spite of the fact that Senator Hall signed on. I will still support this amendment. I think it is...when we're looking at educational opportunity for children, and that's what open enrollment and choice was all about was providing the best educational opportunity, I think we do that by facilitating the fact that of having all of the family...all of the children in the family be allowed to go to the same school district. And this simply opens that up and allows them to do that so we don't...so we don't restrict siblings from following into the same school district that their...that their brothers and sisters may have choiced into. This will allow that to happen and I think it's a good...it's good policy. Thank you.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Baack, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Baack, do you yield?

SPEAKER BAACK: Yes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I understand it's not your amendment but since you are the principal introducer of the choice legislation, I wanted to ask you the question. What happens, for...for a minute go through the process with me, if a family who has a senior, was able to opt in, or junior, was able to opt in but the sibling is a seventh grader, and that school district has decided, because of rules we put in under choice legislation, that the seventh grade was an unusually large class that they have at the time, it fit the criteria where they could close that particular area to choice and it fit the standards for a good rationale not to take option students. Why...why should we...why should we make an exception in this particular rule and I'm just kind of curious, if we...if we set the standard for when they should...when they should not be able to