

would not be good policy are those who benefit financially from the current policy. Not a big surprise, that tends to happen. There are basically four categories of students out there that are...fall within this wards of the court issue and where money follows them. What we are proposing, with amendment 62, AM62 is to treat each of those program slightly differently. We say that if a child is made a ward of the court and placed into a foster home, you know a home like any of us live in where we would take in a foster student, there's really no rationale for the State of Nebraska to continue to fund those programs. They are placed in private homes, those homes are on the property tax roll, they are residents of the district, as are anybody else that would move into that district. The local school district ought to pay for them. And the state aid for education program, because this is one additional formula student, that money will follow into that district. And we are saying that those ought not to be funded. That was, in essence, a bill that Senator Ashford brought to the Education Committee last year. We are saying at the other end of the spectrum that the...that the...those students that are placed in group homes, those that use the public education system, that put an undue burden on a community, and there are examples, Alliance, Henderson, some in the Omaha area, that would be Omaha Home for Boys, that the students go to...that live in the group home but they go to the public school for education purposes, because of the concentrated impact of those, there is a burden that the State of Nebraska is causing and that they ought to be funded. Likewise, we say that those that are incarcerated in correction facilities, they're really out of the system. And the State of Nebraska has caused them to be out of the system, they are being incarcerated, that the state ought to pay them. The category we're suggesting a new policy consideration for that has not been discussed with this issue, but that we are suggesting a new policy consideration for, in AM62, is those students who are special education students, that are placed in group homes where the group home provides education onsite, that they don't go to the public schools. There's a facility, and maybe some of you have visited with the gentleman out in the Rotunda, up in Senator Conway's district, one in Senator Lynch's district, where this is the case. How these are currently funded is if they qualify for special education, Department of Social Services pays 100 percent of the cost of their education. What we're proposing is, if these are special education students, that the funding ought to flow, not through DSS at 100 percent, but they ought to flow through special education at 90 percent