

SENATOR STUHR: On Journal page 1393, line 26, referring to it says, how to provide for the financial support of students with extremely disabling conditions and extraordinary needs which result in high cost. What do you mean or what is meant by extraordinary needs?

SENATOR MCKENZIE: Let me just give you an example. Some of the children who are qualified under special education and are in inclusion now in our class rooms are labeled medically fragile children, they require full-time medical attention, including deep trachial suction, monitoring of body functions, I mean they are multiply handicapped children. And those are considered extraordinary needs, very expensive.

SENATOR STUHR: All right. Does anywhere refer to providing some funds for gifted children under this program when we're talking about special needs?

SENATOR MCKENZIE: No, Senator Stuhr, and in fact I mentioned earlier this morning that the language "unique needs" will be addressed in an amendment on Select File to students with handicapping conditions, so that it is clear we are talking about the pool of children that we have always served under these 13 categories and that we're not including new categories.

SENATOR STUHR: Okay. Also, a question relating again to block grants, that superintendents have been contacting me about, particularly those from small schools and wondering again how the rates will be assigned to schools through the block grants.

SENATOR MCKENZIE: Senator Stuhr, that is outlined as a responsibility of the Special Education Accountability Commission as they review the numbers and the costs based on different sizes of schools across the state in making that recommendation.

SENATOR STUHR: I think that many of the superintendents are concerned about the mobile society that we live in, that over the summer months they may have a family with three children that have special needs that move into the district, that, you know, there may not be funds to accommodate those needs, and how are we, you know, going to address that?

SENATOR MCKENZIE: Senator Stuhr, currently if a school has three high needs students move in, in the summer, they are not