

understand, to whatever level that is. You will talk to superintendents who tell you that they're really only receiving 60 percent right now from the state and they're picking up the other 40 percent, and there are those who will tell you they're really getting 90 percent. But David Bernard-Stevens argument about who would pay that gap when we're not getting to 90 is correct. It would be local resources. It would have to be local resources because these civil rights are protected and we cannot work around or eliminate those services for children who have been identified.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Senator McKenzie. Senator Chambers, to close on your amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I can see that this amendment has about as much chance of flying as that statue of Abraham Lincoln out there or it has as much chance of flying as Abraham Lincoln has of sitting down out there. And I'm not going to argue this amendment until Abraham Lincoln's statue sits down. But here is what I would like to ask Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Bernard-Stevens, if we're at the point where block grants are given and we're not on a reimbursement basis, if the block grant is given, will it be given in advance based on what needs are determined are likely to arise?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: That is my hope.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Now and we're speaking in very general terms. If a district uses less than the amount in that block grant for special education purposes, do they have to refund money to the state?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: The concept is no. In fact, that is the incentive in there is that the more efficient that they will become, maybe it's on the identifying factor, maybe it's in the working with the IEPs and the other instructors, but that they would be able to have the flexibility of those dollars to put into more dollars into zero to three or some of the other programs that have been very, very effective.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now let me ask you this. If they do have extra money, could they put it in band uniforms if they chose to?