

February 13, 1996 LB 1050

the incentive portion. It may be a little bit more complicated, so I am withdrawing that request for division, temporarily. We will now take up the divided amendment, AM3077, in the following order--we will first deal with what now becomes FA439, which deals with Sections 12 and 13, popularly known as the option hold-harmless. And it's my understanding that Senator Bohlke wishes that division to come first. Senator Bohlke, you have been given your ten minutes to open on the amendments in general. I think it might be valuable if we gave you just a minute or two, if nobody objects to my doing that, not to give an argumentation but just to explain to people what is before us. So I'll recognize you for two minutes to give a brief explanation of what's before us.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you, Mr. President and members. You have an amendment before you that addresses the option students. Currently, in 1050, the recommendation was to take the payments for the option students from... Excuse me a moment. I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, we are not going to my amendment, we're just going to the option portion?

SPEAKER WITHEM: At this point I was asking you if you would explain for the body, for two minutes, what's before us.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Okay. And so in 1050 what we did was we took the payments that would go to the option students, those are payments that would go to the nonequalized school districts. They are currently getting their per pupil cost, or the statewide average, whichever is lower. Very often that is...that statewide average is about \$4,400. The recommendations and what we had in 1050 currently moves that to what would be \$1,100, and that would be the average of the equalization payments for students. We have another amendment coming up that would change that and we will be debating, that would say that we would return that to the \$4,400, but it would come out of the income tax rebate of the 83 million in LB 1050. I know you're going to have some questions, but in two minutes it's hard to explain it. The option, I think you understand what we've done in 1050 as it is now. It takes the payments, essentially, from 4,400 down to 1,100.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Another 30 seconds.

SENATOR BOHLKE: And that's what is in 1050 at this time.