

February 15, 1995 LB 1050

extremely hard on those buses. And I'll match our maintenance costs any day. And I would rather have your nice smooth streets and roads as compared to the gravel roads that ours have to travel upon. But, Senator Bohlke, this may be more remedial and it's for my help, but there's a number of people who have trouble with the transportation issue and how it fits in the formula. And so just from a point of review, could you walk me through how transportation is part of the needs factor in the formula, and then how you propose to take it out because there are a number of people here I think are talking about, gee, everybody has school buses, so what are we doing with this. Could we have that discussion?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Rather than walk you through I'll try to drive you through this, this part.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: From transportation I love that idea. Now if we could just fly through it I'd be in great shape, so.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yeah, so would I. One thing people need to realize, the nonequalized schools do not qualify for their transportation costs.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Okay, the equalized schools figure their costs within their tier. And so that's part of the determination of their needs within their tier. And then we come to a...and so that's how they currently figure their costs. When you do that, as I said, and if you have a tier, you know, with ten schools and one with high transportation and one with no or low, you're going to drag by, when you figure that average, then you're going to drag down the top and you're going to inflate those schools who really shouldn't be inflated because they have no transportation costs.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: The issue of transportation, also when we talk about busing, there's a number of school districts who say, well, you know, we've done things like consolidate, we've added more value to our base, we have more value per student because we've done the consolidation things, that takes us out of being an equalization school, and theoretically we've done what everybody wants us to do, that's consolidate. But because we have consolidated we have much higher transportation costs,