

February 15, 1996 LB 1050

way to look at it. But the 1059 formula really does address the areas of needs of a school district as opposed to incentives for consolidation. That's not what 1059's about.

SENATOR BOHLKE: But we do, we do have an incentive portion that we'll be coming to in this bill, and also, you know, I introduced a bill that would take away the mandate. And in that we reward school districts with transportation because we say you only have to count 50 percent of your resources if you're going to offer transportation.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: But that's not probably going to be part of LB 1050?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Not yet.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Not on General File. Okay, thank you very much.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Wickersham, on the transportation amendment.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Madam President. I'm speaking, I suppose, in part because I think there are number of people in this body who'd be surprised if I didn't. So I'll give you the advantage. I'm going to support this portion of the committee amendments because it does address what I think is an inequity and a problem in the current formula, and that is the way costs are calculated in the tiers and that you do have, in effect, people who obtain an advantage because of other people's high transportation costs. Whether this is the last word on how we should treat transportation in the formula, I'm less confident about that, but I am perfectly willing to use this as a starting point and see how it works. One of the principles that's involved here, I fully expect us to come back to in another context, and maybe Senator McKenzie or Senator Bohlke will want to comment on this particular aspect, but I want, I think the body ought to be aware that the principle that we're using for transportation cost is also applicable in other areas and in specifically, perhaps, in the area of special education. So I want to alert you, if you support this amendment or this portion of the amendment today, that you may be establishing a principle that you will again be asked to support in another arena later