

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: The only exception of that is, this section right now, in law, or even if they're full and so they're not taking anybody in the elementary. If a older sibling is already there, they have to take the younger one, no questions asked.

SENATOR ABOUD: Um-hum. Has this been a problem in school districts? Have they, have they contacted you and said, we need to change this law?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yes.

SENATOR ABOUD: Which school districts were those?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: When you go to my district, you can name them all, Hershey, Sutherland, North Platte, Maxwell, and Brady. But more important than that, when we meet, and we meet about every two to three weeks with superintendents across the state, actually anyone in the Legislature can go, but the Education Committee, when we have talked about this all year, they have all said, yes, we support that, that is a problem.

SENATOR ABOUD: I'm just a little bit concerned because we have, we have our meetings with the school districts and no one's ever raised this issue to...and I know my, one of my school districts has probably more option students than any other in the state, and they've never, they've never raised this as an issue.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Beutler (sic), are you referring to 66?

SENATOR ABOUD: Well we talk...yeah, a number of different districts.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yeah, District 66, it won't raise the issue because they accept everyone because they have so many dollars that they can spend that if they need to hire another instructor, they go ahead and do so. Because as you know, on the income tax rebate side, they've gotten the money to be able to take all comers. The rest of the world out there actually can't afford to hire new faculty for option students coming in, so they limit that to the level of what their capacity is.