

CLERK: Madam President, the next amendment I have is by Senator Schimek. Senator, I have a note you want to withdraw AM3285 and offer in lieu thereof AM3631?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Correct.

SENATOR CROSBY: Unanimous consent to withdraw and substitute. No objection, so ordered.

CLERK: AM3631, Senator. (Amendment may be found on pages 1098-99 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Schimek, to open on your amendment.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. On your desk you will find AM3631, it passed out just a little while ago. And you will also find on your desk an explanation of this amendment to...it says "Special Education Tiers Amendment to LB 1050." And first I would like to explain what the amendment does, and then I would like to explain why this amendment is being introduced and the reason that you should vote for it. What this does is it treats special education basically like we have been treating...that we have agreed to treat transportation costs, and it removes them from the tier. And so it removes them from the averaging process of the tiers and adds back individual districts' allowable excess special education costs for needs. It treats the variations in the individual school districts' special ed needs the very same way that LB 1050 already treats variations in transportation needs. It corrects the artificial inflation that incurs when nonspecial education spending districts are in a tier with a district that has special education expenses, and consequently benefits from the special ed districts' expenditures on special education. For school districts with lower than average special ed needs, it removes the windfall of state aid produced by the special ed needs of other districts in their tier, and it eliminates the current situation where some districts with no special education needs receive state aid as though they did. Now, to illustrate, I'd like you to follow along with me on the chart that I handed out that talks about the effects of current interaction of special ed excess cost reimbursement and equalization aid. And if you'll look at that, it takes two districts, two Lincoln-size districts, that are identical in