

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Bohlke, would you care to respond?

SENATOR ROBINSON: Do you know how much money changes hands in this?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Gee, Senator Robinson, I haven't seen the printout.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay, well, I guess that's a good...that's a good answer. She hasn't seen the printout. Okay, I was thinking, you know, there are probably a lot of other costs we ought to take out of the tier costs, too. I can think of a lot of them. I know I've discussed a few with Senator McKenzie about extracurricular activities and all some...all that stuff. There are a lot of things we could...we could really skinny that tier cost down, but let me say, I think there is something to be said about this, but I don't think we know enough about it yet. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Withem and members of the Legislature, if you had been asked before the General...General File debate what the transportation costs were for each and every one of the school districts in your district, I doubt if you could have told me, could you? You would have had the same response as Senator Robinson about transportation as he got today on special education, and the point I am trying to make is you're dealing with a matter of philosophy here. We all voted blind on General File, we voted our objective feelings about what was the right thing to do, and the facts came back, and now we know what happened. As far as Lincoln is concerned, they lost money, but I, for one, and I don't think the other Lincoln senators are backing off the bill for that reason because it was the right thing to do objectively for all the kids taken altogether in the state. And the same thing is happening here. It's a matter of what you think is fair for all the kids in the state, and in this case, for all the special education kids in the state, and for the schools that are trying to do things for them. Should they recover their actual costs? Or should they be forced to lose some of the money that they are spending for this worthwhile purpose simply because they happen to be in a tier that forces them to average costs and recover less than they actually spend? It's clearly a matter of philosophy. It's