

that they are trying to accomplish is going to be accomplished during the next session and, with that, I'll yield whatever extra time I have on opening to Senator Schimek.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Schimek, you have just about five minutes.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. I appreciate the fact that Senator Bernard-Stevens would yield the time. I rise in support of the reconsideration recommendation and I do it, of course, somewhat reluctantly, but with my eyes wide open and I was tempted to get up and say that reports of the demise of this are greatly exaggerated, but I decided that was just being cute and not dealing with reality. The reality of this amendment's adoption is that a great number of school districts were impacted negatively by the printout unexpectedly and, of course, when that happens some support from the bill is going to drop. Secondly, there were a number of school districts that were impacted positively, 219 to be exact, so we could have had a good fight here on the floor on keeping the amendment. It could have been a prolonged fight, but it would have been a good fight and the end result might have been we might have kept it or we might not, but we probably would have lost support from the bill, especially if we had kept the amendment. And it is my feeling, I think it's Senator Beutler's feeling and the other members of the Lincoln delegation, that we think LB 1050 is important and we don't want to jeopardize the bill. In fact, I had told Senator Bohlke in the very beginning that I wouldn't offer the amendment if it was going to jeopardize the bill. Now I never thought ahead to what we would do if it got adopted and it looked like it was going to jeopardize the bill, but in keeping with that I thought it was only fair to try to do everything we could to secure passage of LB 1050. I do think this has been an important policy discussion and one that should help the special ed task forces deal with what they're going to do with special education. I don't think any of us realize what might happen in Senator Hillman's district until we had this discussion and, as you remember, she talked about the state mandate that would most likely bring an unexpected number of new special ed students into her district without any kind of state reimbursement for that. There may be other school districts that will be impacted by that same policy, maybe on the opposite end of the state, who knows. We also had the opportunity to ask during that