

would recommend an amendment on either 299 or 1141, whichever's the most appropriate, that talks about special ed that would clarify that position; that the state actually will pick up the cost of those students...children that have been brought back. What Senator Hillman did not mention is that in Torrington, you know, there are about 19 other students that have been placed out of state that will be coming back as well and when we, the state, make that policy, which I think was a good policy, to come...to have them come back and if most of them go to the Scottsbluff system it's a tremendous burden to Scottsbluff to do that and it will strain their resources even more. And I concur actually with Scottsbluff that in the beginning I believe has said they're not going to use their dollars to do that because it's a state obligation and I think they're right in making that decision and it's up to us to back them up on that and so I will be supportive, if not...if there's not an amendment this session on LB 1141 or LB 299, certainly will be very much in support and will work as hard as we can together to make sure that that becomes a reality. In regard to those that oppose 1050 and their rhetoric on trying to tie this reconsideration motion and 1050, I'm just not even going to respond to it simply because we'll get to those arguments when we get to 1050. Bottom line is this particular reconsideration is on the Schimek amendment which all sides looked at the political possibilities and the ramifications of trying to get in to do what we probably would need to do to fix some of the contentious points that we're at right now in special ed and the bottom line is I think Senator Schimek and Senator Beutler, I and others would have been more than willing to push it to see if we could force people to get 25 votes, 'cause, quite honestly, the Bohlke amendment that would be...would have been coming favors my district tremendously. By stripping the amendment, once again my district is going to be hurt in regards to simply the North Platte Public Schools and some of the other smaller schools around. Bottom line is we felt that special education and these children are so important that the way we'd have to approach it on Select File is simply would not...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ..do justice to that and so I ask for the reconsideration. Senator Schimek, I have less than a minute, but I'll give you that time if you so desire.