

We have had a number of parents contact us and wonder what's happened to this bill and why it isn't passing. And, actually, the bill was introduced last year, so it has been sitting around for quite awhile, and I...this was my attempt to bring this issue to the floor and to the body and have a good discussion of it. And, hopefully, we can pass it because, as I said, it is local option, and my school district would like to be able to do this, at least like to have the option of doing this, and I imagine there are some other schools that would also like that option. With that, I'd be happy to try and answer question that you might have.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Bohlke, on the Schimek amendment.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes, Madam President and members, we did pass this out of the Education Committee on...with just two negative votes. But, if I recall, Senator Schimek, this is where we had the administrator come in and testify in opposition to the bill, and I think saying that most four...most people who started four years...started school when they were four-years old tended to be maladjusted. At that point, I pointed out to him that I had started school when I was four-years old, and then David Bernard-Stevens said that only proves that that's true, that all of those who start school when they are four tend to be maladjusted, but then I did find other support from the committee, and we found out that Senator Warner started school when he was four. I believe that Senator Wickersham and another person on the committee, a number of people are indicating to me, so all of us may...right, but, anyway, there was pretty much...there was support for the idea to give parents that flexibility, and I rise in support of the Schimek amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM PRESIDING

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to ask...to challenge germaneness of the amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Let me take a look at it. Let me also ..let me do this. Let me, typically, we allow the proponent and the person raising the issue of germaneness to speak. Senator