

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 9, 1999

LB 813

SENATOR BOHLKE: Correct.

SENATOR C. PETERSON: When you change the number of the sparse or very sparse, will that impact the amount of state aid that is going to all of the systems? Could there be a change that affects the average now because of this change that you're doing with the sparse and very sparse?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Senator Peterson, it would only affect those in the sparse category, not those in the very sparse or in the standard.

SENATOR C. PETERSON: So the amount of money that is certified to go would not be affected because more schools enter one group and leave another group.

SENATOR BOHLKE: I want to make sure, Senator Peterson. Just one minute. Senator Peterson, the only thing that could happen and we wouldn't know is if you would pull the sparse costs down by adding these schools, that, or up by adding those, there could be that change. But with just eight, it would be very difficult to impact the entire group.

SENATOR C. PETERSON: By pulling them down, what you're saying is if they go into a different category it would impact their needs. It would change their needs as well as their resources. So, if the resources then would be less and the needs more, it could take money away from the other groups. I guess is what I'm saying is...is this amendment is going to have the ability to again change the formula.

SENATOR BOHLKE: No, it will not take from other groups. The only thing that could happen is that the average cost could, in that sparse group, when you add different schools, may change. But you're only adding eight and so it would be what's going on in those school districts. If your...if those school districts happen to be a little higher cost than the ones who are currently in the sparse school district, that, by adding those in and averaging those costs, may go up a little. At the same time, if those happen to be lower cost districts, it could bring down the costs in the sparse school districts. So it could go