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levies. So all in all, we have seen the state drop its percentage reimbursement, we have seen that drop significantly, I would say, we have seen schools bring their costs, I think, well in line, but, in looking at the trend of increase in cost of students who have some very significant needs, can no longer meet that 3 percent cap. We think that a 5 percent cap is a reasonable reaction. They still are growing at 5.5 percent; it's not giving them the full amount, but we think that they have made a strong case for the 5 percent. And I...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Bohlke, that's approximately half-way through.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you. And I would like to give the remainder of my opening to Senator Price, and once again thank her for making this her priority bill.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Price.

SENATOR PRICE: Mr. Speaker and members of the body. Thank you, Senator Bohlke. During the past few years, advances in medical technology have resulted in an increase number of children with intense medical needs attending our public schools. These children may be referred to as chronically ill, medically fragile, or medical-equipment dependant. Some of these children may have diabetes, childhood leukemia, asthma, epilepsy or other chronic medical illnesses. Children with intense medical or health needs may require individualized healthcare during the school day in order to participate in their education program. Some of the types of healthcare required by some students which are not currently considered reimbursable special ed costs by the Nebraska Department of Education include, and I'll list some of these--special diet, supplemental nutrition, specially prepared food consistency and texture, feeding processes for students with eating, swallowing and digestive conditions, suctioning units for students who are potentially in need of basic life-support services including airway management and for whom funding is not available from other sources for this equipment, nebulizer units for students with asthma or respiratory disease and for whom funding sources do not exist to provide a unit both at home and at school, storage units for reserve oxygen tanks at school for oxygen-dependent students,