

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

February 23, 2000 LB 1243

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes.

SENATOR BROMM: Now, the...the motivation or the reason for putting in the language with regard to reimbursement for medical costs associated with carrying out the IEP. Could you explain why we have to do that again, please. I'm sure you've explained that, I'll ask you to do it once more, if I could.

SENATOR BOHLKE: No, I appreciate the question because I think it's a very important aspect of the bill. As we have moved to least restrictive environment, as I said, it used to be you might have one school that would provide...you would send the students to a central location for services. As least restrictive environment has been put in place, you may now have to have every school have the changing tables, the latex gloves for protection for the teachers who are required to do a number of things, even to the extent that there are some schools that an ambulance has to deliver the child to the school district. And so as you spread this out to numbers of school districts, rather than one, central location, that certainly has had an impact on a large number of schools who were not seeing this medical cost. Also, there was a law suit in Iowa last year that gave clear indication that these medical costs must be covered if they are in the IEP, and I think school districts are recognizing that. But as we have special education students move into a lot of school districts maybe who hadn't had a large population before, these costs are new costs to them.

SENATOR BROMM: And remind me once again, in Nebraska we cover these costs and these students in our educational program from what age to what age?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Zero to twenty-one.

SENATOR BROMM: And does the federal government require...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR BROMM: ...that we cover them to 21, or is it required that we cover them to age 18?