

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

May 7, 2003

LB 540

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: I would also tell you that in my district we have several districts that just this year are going to be sharing superintendents, so they're already going that way. We have several that are looking at unification.

SENATOR BOURNE: You know what, Senator Cunningham? If that's the case,...

SPEAKER BROMM: Time.

SENATOR BOURNE: ...they shouldn't object to this amendment.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Cunningham and Senator Bourne. Senator Price, followed by Senator Combs.

SENATOR PRICE: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I respectfully oppose this amendment. Having served 14 years on the Lincoln Board of Education, we made the decisions what was best for the classrooms of our schools. When times were tough, we eliminated busing, transportation, except for mandated transportation. We were making cuts that we thought were furthest from the classroom. Money, money is getting tighter and I just wonder like we have many traveling teachers here in the district. They go from school to school teaching reading recovery. How do they get affected by this amendment? I'm just saying that this takes away the local control and the local decisions. It's a big brother operation and I just believe that this is wrong. I understand, Senator Bourne, you know, what he's trying to do, but a good school board is going to make this decision on their own without a mandate from the state. I urge your opposition to this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Price. Senator Combs.

SENATOR COMBS: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I do appreciate what this bill says and I believe if we could have our parents within our district and our students here on the floor of the Chamber with us right now and standing behind us telling us how to vote, I think we need to think about what would our students and parents be telling us. And I'm talking