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

April 26, 2005 LB 114

has, I think that all of us have, that we want to make certain that every child that needs to have an appropriate vision exam and appropriate treatment gets it. So I think Senator Bourne's intentions are totally honorable. I think it's a matter of how we can get to the appropriate language to make absolutely certain that every child enters school able to have appropriate vision. I think that's the goal of this entire 49-member body. I think that it would be the goal of every school system, the goal of every physician and every optometrist. And I would expect no less of any of us or any professionals. But in the form that Senator Bourne has introduced the amendment, I would need to...I would need to oppose it. I think probably, even though it's fairly cleverly written with the severability clause, I think probably there could be some question as far as constitutionality is concerned, as far as mandating charges on the part of anyone. And so I think there is some constitutional suspicions here, but again I would say one more time I don't think Senator Bourne has anything less than total integrity in mind here. He wants to try to protect young kids who need protecting. I think Senator Chambers feels exactly the same way. I don't think we're actually that far apart. I think that once we move this bill to Select File, I think we can appropriately bring some language that will make sure, addressing Senator Chambers' concerns, which I think are valid, that if a child or child's family, if we say this information has to be provided to them in their Kindergarten Roundup piece, and then give them a way, confidentiality, to be able to make a contact, whether it be to the school or to the school to get an appropriate number so that other...and other people don't need to know. They shouldn't have to know if somebody needs some And I think we can ...we can make some language available fairly simply within the bill on Select File that will enable us to preserve that confidentiality for families. will address Senator Bourne's issue of making sure that these kids get to an appropriate place, such as the Lions Club or such as Vision USA or VSP, the people that can do this and do it in a confidential manner to make sure that all kids get appropriately and then they get the treatment necessary. And I think this is something that every single one of us wants. I think we have a common objective in mind. I think the action steps are just where we aren't quite where we need to be yet, but