

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

April 26, 2005 LB 114

we're...I think we're getting closer in conversations, both on and off the mike, and I certainly in no way see this as any attack on the bill and the intention of the bill, but I see it as a means of trying to make it better and trying to do something that's going to be appropriate for all children. How much time do I have left, Senator?

SENATOR CUDABACK: About 1, 11.

SENATOR BYARS: Okay. I would give one minute back to Senator Bourne, if you would like to use 60 seconds, Senator?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bourne, would you like to use Senator Byars' time?

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Senator Byars. I did have my light on and then all of a sudden it went off, so I do appreciate your time. As I listen to you discuss the amendment, I...what I hear you say, and please correct me if I'm wrong, but I don't hear you objecting to providing some assurances that people who can't afford this exam get it free of charge, if. I commend the optometrists for all the community work that they do, and it's similar, Senator Engel, to the community work that the attorneys do. But anyway, I commend the optometrists in this regard, but, you know, it's possible that a child, a poor child, could fall through the cracks with the system the way it is. So I don't hear you objecting to providing some sort of assurances that poor people will get this exam and yet not have to become even more poor, for lack of a better way to say it, through the law or because of the law.

SENATOR BYARS: Absolutely, Senator. I think that's our main outcome that all of us want, and I think we just need to find the appropriate language to be able to do that and do it in a manner that is good law.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time. Time is up, Senator. Senator Bourne, your light is next. You're the only light on, so you may either speak or you may close, whatever you wish.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you. I think I'll speak for just a