

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

April 26, 2005 LB 114

minute, if I could continue the discussion with Senator Byars. Senator Byars, so again, I don't hear you...I don't hear your opposition to the fact that you would be agreeable to putting some additional language into the green...or, excuse me, into the amended version of LB 114 that would provide some sort of assurance to me and other members of the body that, if a person can't otherwise afford this exam, that somehow there will...it will be taken care of.

SENATOR BYARS: Absolutely, and I will work with all parties to bring us together to find the appropriate language to do that. I want to thank you, because I think that what you're envisioning and what you want to see happen is exactly what I want to see happen, what Senator Chambers wants to see happen, I think every member of this body. We want to make sure every single kid can see appropriately and starts on the same playing field, a level playing field, when they start to school.

SENATOR BOURNE: Absolutely. We're in agreement with that. I did, however, hear you discuss lines 2 through 4 and the reverse inseverability clause, and you seem to be struggling with that, where it says this act is a complete act and its provisions inseverable. You don't like that language?

SENATOR BYARS: No, I have a little problem with the possibility this might be unconstitutional, Senator. And I know it's drafted quite cleverly, but I don't (laugh) think probably this is an amendment that we want to adopt.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. All right, Senator Byars. Thank you. Listen, I appreciate all the work that Senator Byars has done on this and other measures like this in the past. He's always been easy to work with and I'm more than comfortable in supporting this bill over to Select File with his commitment and other individuals' involved commitment, that we will find a way that...to change the language in the bill so that people who can't otherwise afford it have some mechanism where they can comply with the law, get the eye exam rather than opt out, and yet have that eye exam paid for. So, Senator Byars, I look forward to working with you on this and, with that, I would withdraw AM0975. Thank you.