

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

May 5, 2005

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guess what? I'm happy that that happens. I wish it were a little less, but I'm happy that it happens and I'm happy that it benefits our public schools. I just don't think we're asking that much here.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR FRIEND: I would say that if we head down avenues like this, I think we could probably go through the budget, line by line, and find things that each one of us thinks is inappropriate and, you know, maybe today after the time that we've spent, maybe it feels like we're doing that. But I would say we could do down, line by line, and find things that we think are inappropriate. I would submit to you that this isn't one of them. I believe it's been through the legal system. It's been defined as appropriate, and I think the Appropriations Committee has defined it now as appropriate. I would urge the defeat of AM1431. With that, Mr. President, thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Friend. On with discussion of AM1431, Senator Engel, followed by Senator Foley and others.

SENATOR ENGEL: Mr. President, members of the body, this has been an ongoing battle for several years as far as far this textbook loan situation. I think Senator Chambers has brought this up before, not totally to eliminate it, but to reduce and so forth. And this has been in effect for several years. Senator LaVon Crosby, who served with us, who Senator Chambers admires, her husband took this to the courts, and it is constitutional, and it's been very effective. A little history. My children went to parochial school the first eight years. They went to public schools thereafter at high school and college. I served on our St. Michael's school board and then I served on our community school board, our public school board. In fact, one person, when I ran for the public school board, he says, I'll tell you what, I'll vote for you if you promise to keep St. Michael School open, because of the savings to the taxpayers. Now we did that by choice. I don't mind...I didn't...we didn't ask for tax dollars to support our school, because that was a choice we made, and I was very happy to pay