oldest child within a family unit is not eligible to pursue a
university education whereby his or her younger siblings are
eligible to attend our university system at state...the in-state
tuition rate simply because of the fact that the younger kids
were born here, and the older kids, who had nothing to say about
it, were brought here by the folks, by the parents, and they are
essentially locked out of a university education, whereas his
younger brothers and sisters can attain or can enroll at our
university system. You know, I just think this is an issue of
basic fairness. This is not an immigration issue. I think we
need to look at this; that we're strapped with this. We're
tasked with this because of the failure of the federal
government, and we need to develop sound policy that is
fundamentally fair. Want to thank you, Senator Cudaback.
Senator Schimek, if you'd like the balance of my time, I'd
yield.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek, about 1, 30.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you very much, Mr. President and Senator
Synowiecki. You just actually said some of what I was going to
say in closing, and that is that birth order and parentage
should not determine a child's future. Support for this
proposal is growing among interested parties, and when I get a
chance to talk again I want to go over some of these groups that
are supporting this bill. But many thoughtful people have come
to realize that these students really do mean a lot to our
communities and economies. The Board of Regents recently voiced
its support for the concept embodied by the bill and actually
the bill itself. The Gallup Organization endorsed LB 239 last
year in a letter to the Education Committee, which is included
in Section 5 of your handout. Other groups from the education
community, the religious...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...communities, and Hispanic communities
worked together during the interim to solidify support for this
issue. This is an issue which needs resolution. It is timely
(laugh), I guess it's timely, and it is important to the future
of these students. We've already let too many of them dangle