

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

April 10, 2006      LB 1024

need to draw some attention, because I do care about children. I have a concern if we're meeting the needs of the children. Right now, I'm concerned about the needs of the children in OPS. And I'm going to read from a document from OPS. This was their brief, or petition, July 29, 2003. These are not my words. Thousands of students in OPS, including plaintiff students and Nebraska Trust student member students, and in particular high number of students who are low income, English learner, special education, or racial or ethnic minorities who attend schools in these districts are not proficient in reading, math, or writing, or not graduated from high school, or not meeting adequate yearly progress standards. This is reading out of OPS. Overall, OPS students in grades 3 and 4 were not proficient on national standardized reading tests, and the data that they used was from 2001-2002. Considered by category, OPS fourth grade student, English learner students, low-income students, special education students, black students, American Indian students, and Hispanic students are not proficient in Nebraska STARS reading assessment. (C) Overall, OPS students in grades 7 and 8 are not proficient in national standardized reading assessments in the years that they use, 2001-2002. Considered by category, OPS grades 10 through 12 grade, English learners, low-income students, special education students, black students, African-American...excuse me, American Indian students and Hispanic students are not proficient. Now we're going to go to the math. OPS 8th grade English learner students, low-income students, special education students, black students, American Indian students, Hispanic students are not proficient. Considered by category, OPS 10...12th English learner students, low-income students, special education students, black students, Hispanic students are not proficient in writing. Overall, OPS fourth grade students are not proficient in writing standards. Graduation rates: Nebraska statewide graduate...graduation (laugh) average percentage of students who complete high school is 88.02; in OPS overall, 62.9 percent of the students complete high school. Considered by category, the OPS data shows only 55.6 of black OPS students complete high school; 50.02 percent of special ed OPS students complete high school; 46.4 Hispanic complete high school; 33.3 English learners; 27.1 American Indian. For 2003, thousands of students in OPS, including plaintiff students and students of Nebraska School Trust, did