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

April 10, 2006 LB 821

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Yes.

SENATOR FLOOD: Senator Erdman, is that your understanding? I mean, you're the...you've dreamt this bill up, you worked it. I see nothing in here that addresses extracurricular activities, other than if you qualify under NSAA standards for meeting the 20 hours. Would you elaborate on that for a second?

SENATOR ERDMAN: I would, Senator Flood. I appreciate that. The amendment, or the bill, excuse me, that was introduced, and the bill that we have introduced in the past, in working with the NSAA and others, had a broader scope, if you will. The bill before you, through the committee amendment, narrows that scope to allow students to be able to access the public schools to the academic side of it. There is no way that a student can be able to meet the educational requirements that the NSAA has unless they're able to enroll in the public school. That provision is not capsulated in the committee amendment. This simply allows the student to access the public school. The NSAA rules and standards are separate. In the event that the student would meet those, they would have the opportunity, should the school district see to provide that opportunity for them. But there is nothing in this amendment that provides that explicit right.

SENATOR FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Erdman. For that reason, I support the amendment and the underlying bill, LB 821. But I do want to just make it clear that I know that at least I have serious concerns about allowing homeschoolers to participate in extracurricular activities when we have a whole separate set of guidelines between the homeschooler, academically, and the public school. And I'm not saying that one is better than the other, or one is more stringent, or anything like that. I just, at this time, can't reconcile that. But that is not in this bill. It's not in this amendment. I support the amendment, and I support the bill. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Flood. Seeing no further lights on, Senator Raikes, you're recognize to close on the committee amendments, as Chairman.