

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 11, 2006 LB 1006

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. AM3223, this is a continuation, in substance, of the discussion which we had on the prior bill, when I mention this. The constitutional amendment proposed in LB 1006 would allow a portion of the lands and funds set aside in the constitution for purposes of supporting the common schools be used as an early childhood education endowment fund. In order to ensure that these funds remain devoted to educational purposes and remain within the purview of the public schools, AM3223 would clarify that early childhood education purposes allowed by the constitutional change would be operated by the public schools or those for which the public schools distribute the funds involved to fund...to grant recipients. The school districts have indicated that they are satisfied with this language change, and do not oppose this constitutional amendment with AM3223 adopted and included. In addition, language that would have provided for expansion of the funding from the constitutional sources has been deleted following concerns expressed by Senator Heidemann and others. AM3223 will limit the amount taken from the lands and funds to \$40 million, eliminating the provision related to 10 percent of the corpus, and also eliminating the power of the Legislature to allocate additional funds thereto. With this change, the constitutional amendment would only permit a flat \$40 million...or a fixed \$40 million to be allocated from the lands and funds, unless an additional vote of the people to further amend the constitution were to take place and be successful. The combination of these bills will permit a significant early childhood endowment to be created with the blessing and approval of the voters, and I urge your support and advancement. I thank you for your consideration.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brashear. You've heard the opening on AM3223. There are no lights on, Senator Brashear. He waives closing. The question before the body is, shall AM3223 be adopted? All in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. We're voting on adoption of the Brashear amendment, AM3223. Have you all voted on the issue who care to? We're voting on AM3223 to LB 1006. Members, have you all voted who care to? Members, have you all voted who care to? Please record, Mr. Clerk.