

January 24, 1984

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last fall rather, my office was contacted by an individual living here in Lincoln whose brother was living with her. Now she was in business here in Lincoln. She happened to own a liquor store here in town. Her brother had got in some sort of difficulty back in someplace in...the East Coast, I forget the exact state or town, but it doesn't make any difference, and their parents decided that it would be best for the young man if he would get out of the circumstances that he found himself in and send him out with his sister, let him finish his education here in Lincoln. The problem was that the young man would have to pay tuition in order to go to school here in the Lincoln Public Schools in spite of the fact that our laws say that you have to attend school until you are sixteen, and this young man I believe was fifteen and soon would have been sixteen. But the fact of the matter was he didn't want to drop out of school. He wanted to complete his education, but technically since he had no parents living in this school district, technically he could not attend. Now it was a rather financial burden on the parents to be asked to pay tuition. So the amendment that we had drafted would simply say to the school boards that they may elect to accept those students residing in the district and waive the payment of tuition if such student is residing with a legal resident of the district and the parent or legal guardian of the student raises no objection and substantial financial hardship would result if tuition was not waived. We put in three things that had to happen. But, quite frankly, we have been told by the school boards of this state through their association, we have been told by the Lincoln Public Schools and others, that this potentially could open a door to what they considered to be a lot of abuses of people moving from one district to another. And I understand that. I understand that concern. I simply wanted to make these statements this morning so that we would alert our school districts and alert those people who are in charge of the policies that are made in the school districts that there is a problem out there, and that I think sometimes we need to recognize that since we say to people, you must attend school and since we as a society think that education is important, that we at the same time need to be concerned about those young people who for some reason or other find themselves in a situation where they cannot attend the district their parents might reside in and perhaps we do

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