

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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March 18, 1998 LB 1189, 1228

Senator.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Bruning.

SENATOR BRUNING: Madam President, I move we adopt the E & R amendments for LB 1228.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Bohlke, you have your light on, do you wish to speak to the E & R amendments? Is there any discussion? Seeing none, the question before you is the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 1228. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed nay. The E & R amendments are adopted.

CLERK: Senator Witek has AM3509 pending. (Found on page 988 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Witek to open on her amendment.

SENATOR WITEK: Thank you, Madam Chairman and members of the Legislature. What this amendment would do is put in my bill, 1189, into the primary classifications for 1228, and what 1189 had to do with was to require that the individual education plan for a blind student be asked to consider the teaching of Braille for that student. It's an issue that's been in the Legislature for at least probably the last eight or nine years, and every year the Education Department has promised that it will be put into rules and regulations. It's language that's already passed the federal...at the federal level through the IDEA legislation for the schools, but, for some reason, there is some problem with some schools complying with this rule, and it is not a rule written into the state of Nebraska as of yet. We've not had it. Every year this has come in as a piece of legislation. The Education Department has promised that they are going to write it into the rules, and what's happened again this year is we received Rule 51 and it's stamped all over it "Working Draft" and they've assured us again that it will be adopted in April or soon thereafter. But the track record has been that each time this is all...this has occurred, the rule has not gone into the rules here in the state of Nebraska. So we are asking to ensure that instead of waiting for another year for this to go through as a rule in Nebraska that we would like to have this piece of