

January 18, 1974

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: The point is, if I may continue Mr. President, and then I'll sit down. The point is that we're involved in education. We provide transportation under set circumstances for other people, and it costs about 8% in this state just to provide transportation. 8% of the educational cost in this state is transportation. And that is not based on need or any other area. And the people that have children that are in the EMR and PMR programs already have economic problems already have the problems of tremendous cost above what it takes for a child who is not in these kind of programs. And I would think..first of all you couldn't do it on need. We've have sixteen thousand other forms. I know you oppose Senator Dickinson because you like to get to the heart of the issue, and somebody would give you a form to fill out and another form and you would have to have seventeen copies of it and we would spend more money in administrative costs than we would be a very simple process of saying, do you want to transport your kids, you file for it, here's the bucks to take care of it.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Senator Lewis, I realize you are a debate professor and you are gling to out debate there is no question.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: I'm not going to out debate you. First of all..you are a legitimate person and you are honest and I think you have courage to stand up and say I'm interested in this and I want to see some solutions.

SENATOR DICKINSON: You are refusing to recognize my point, or maybe I'm not getting through to you. That about the 4 miles. That's all I'm concerned about. I think we should all assume responsibilities, and we're putting these responsibilities on society that may be more harm to parents than good. Thank you.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: I just hope you don't go wrong again, Jim.

PRESIDENT: The chair recognizes Senator Snyder.

SENATOR SNYDER: Mr. President, since it's my bill, if I may.

PRESIDENT: Good point.'

SENATOR SNYDER: I would just like to say in regard, that I know it is a legitimate question and it is Senator Dickinson's prerogative to debate this question on this point. But I don't think it is a matter of need. I think when you pay taxes you are entitled to privileges the same as anyone else. And I think in this case anyone who was had a person in their family covered with the legislation that I've proposed here knows the undue cost involved in several areas. In this case as far as transportation, one or a hundred as far as I'm concerned. They have the problems of having a child that needed special attention. Often times, most times in fact I'm sure there are normal children involved who do go to the normal schools. So you either have a second car to buy, make several trips to get all your children to the special schools, etc, or use a taxicab, bus or private carpool. So I don't think that we be concerned in this case with how many total miles are involved. It's already the matter of the inconvenience, I think it's all relative regardless whether you are a mile or 100 miles from that school, so I would hope that you would leave the amendment as is, and we can adopt it, and I can get on with getting my bill hopefully across the board. Thank you.