

March 20, 1979

LB 425

this. It is on Select File. The bill has been amended and it is on Select File and we are proceeding to advance it back to E & R engrossment. I think it can be debated.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Just a moment. Okay.

SENATOR SIMON: I have to make the motion first. You can't debate something if there is nothing before the body. Correct, Mr. President?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Do you want to move the bill?

SENATOR SIMON: I will move the advancement of the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the advancement of LB 425 to E & R for engrossment. The Chair recognizes Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Now, Mr. President, first of all I would like Senator Simon to explain, ask him to explain briefly and succinctly what the amendment to this bill has accomplished.

SENATOR SIMON: The amendment that we just adopted? The amendment that we just adopted, Senator Cullan, would allow local school boards the option if they wish, that is the whole point, it is permissible to allow them the option if they wish to pay for additional students living in a family, the second, third, fourth, et cetera students in that family, who reside over four miles from a school. For example, the particular case that I brought before this body when the bill was brought back last week, in the Elkhorn School District because they cannot afford to bus students over the four miles, they pay the forty cents a mile as state law mandates, however, there is no provision in state law which says anything about additional kids in the family. They are contracting it out to a private concern and the individual families are paying X number of dollars for each student that they have in their family. They may have six kids and they are only being reimbursed for the school district for that first child. So this would allow the school board then if they want to pay something for each additional student if they wish, merely permissive. Does that answer your question?

SENATOR CULLAN: It is at the discretion of the school board?

SENATOR SIMON: It is completely at the discretion of the school board. They can pay zero if they wish.