

April 19, 1979

LB 226

SENATOR LEWIS: But these children need to be served and that is the basic question. It is not a philosophical question. It is a question of a legislative posture that we have now that early intervention is important to the education of these children and is necessary to do it in this way and we have tried to organize it in such a fashion that it is fair and equitable and we take our fair share of the responsibility of their education. Senator Lamb's amendment simply says this with all the chaff away from it. We don't want to serve them and we don't have to if we don't want to. That is the full scope and context of the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch, do you wish to speak to the Lamb amendment? Senator Haberman, do you want to speak to the bill as a whole or do you want to speak to the Lamb amendment?

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, and fellow legislators, this is a very emotional issue, a very important issue to those that it affects. However, sometimes that we have to look further down the road to see the overall effect on an issue like this. I wasn't here last year when the original issue was debated and the original bill was passed so I will have to hold my remarks to LB 226 as Senator Lamb has amended it. Now Senator Lamb is a very honest and sincere man and I am sure that he would not put out information that was false. He is not that type of a man. Now his sheet says that the same services will be provided but the key to it is that it allows the local school district to make the decision. The local school district is elected by the people to serve that school district. In many many cases they know what is right and best for their school district and I will support Senator Lamb's amendment and his bill strictly on the fact that I feel the decisions and the responsibility should be left up to the local school district and not the Legislature. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cope, do you wish to speak to the Lamb amendment?

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President and members, a question of Senator Lamb. Senator Lamb, would you turn to the fiscal note or you probably remember it. On the back side of the fiscal note you are speaking of the 257 children that have been reported in this category, that is of the aught to two. On #3 of the 257 children, 191 are served in programs already receiving state funds, OMR, Title 6 and so forth. Then #5 there is 66 children left that are not