

in those programs that were started through local initiative prior to passage of the state act, those at least below the age of three and that certainly is good that those that were started with local initiative get some state support but what about those that were started by school districts in response to the law that we passed? What about those that are now in effect now because school districts decided to comply with what the State of Nebraska, what we here in the legislature mandated? Are we saying that if a local district started a program or their local program was started for the age below three since 1977-'78 school year. Let's say it has been started in this current school year and, in fact, that then there is local support for them. The school district wants to continue it. They must continue it without state assistance. Now that seems to me to create a good deal of disparity between school districts. I think that if we are going to cut off aid to the pre-school programs it would make more sense to do it uniformly rather than grandfathering in those that took it at local initiative and yet penalizing those who in good faith in response to what this Legislature mandated, started programs and then who may decide either because of local pressure or because of their belief now in the value of those programs to keep those programs going. The logic behind Senator Lamb's amendment I don't think is there. I think he is trying maybe to buy away some opposition from some programs that were started years ago but I think it is totally unfair to those school programs that started in response to what the Legislature mandated and I think that this only increases the disparity. It does not provide financial assistance to those programs that are being started this year or those programs that may be started next year or the year after or the year after and therefore we will have some programs receiving state aid and some not and I think that that will be a problem that will come back to this Legislature very quickly and demand a solution. So I think Senator Lamb's amendment complicates the situation, creates inequities in the state and locks out certain school districts that have chosen to comply with the law that we mandated, prevents them from receiving assistance if they wish to continue their programs so I would oppose the Lamb amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Lamb, I recognize you to close on your amendment.

SENATOR LAMB: Well, Mr. Chairman, I can only reiterate that I offered this amendment to take care of those few