

February 14, 1980

LB 764

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, LB 764 is introduced and the intent of the bill is to place the fiscal responsibility for handicapped high school pupils which reside in districts not maintaining a high school, with the county superintendent through the nonresident tuition fund. This applies strictly to Class 1 districts that are not part of a Class 6. This clarifies the language so that handicapped high school students are handled in the same manner that non-handicapped high school student tuition is paid in these districts. As you probably know Class 1 districts in a county that are not part of a Class 6 have a countywide fund to which all the districts contribute. Then the tuition is paid out of that fund rather than having each Class 1 district pay its own tuition for its own students. This distributes the load countywide for that group of students. Now this bill provides a clarification in the language so that handicapped high school student tuition is handled in the same manner. Presently some counties are charging the handicapped high school tuition to the specific Class 1 district from which that student comes. This could in some cases place a heavy burden on one Class 1 district if it happened to have a number of handicapped high school students. This bill merely lets that burden fall countywide rather than on each individual district.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I have just a couple of questions of Senator Lamb, who is, I know, the resident expert on Class 1 schools. My first question is this, Senator Lamb. With the success...you have had imminent success today with the movement off General File of LB 765, now raising the reimbursement formula to 100%. How does that jibe with 764 which leaves the reimbursement formula at 90%?

SENATOR LAMB: All right, the other bill, 765, applied only to handicapped students less than five years of age. This is dealing with the problem of high school age handicapped students.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Okay, so the two do not....

SENATOR LAMB: Not related.

SENATOR JOHNSON: All right. Now my second question is this and I think you really answered it in your opening remarks. I just want to make sure that I understand it. At this time the county high school tuition money is money that is raised