

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Mr. Speaker, I'll certainly try. Members of the Legislature, this problem came to my attention last year and it is a unique problem, a unique situation that affects a very few school districts in this state. The one that I learned about happens to be in my district and is connected with the Agate National Fossil Beds and I think there are five other school districts in the state that might possibly have the same kind of situation. But what really shakes out of this whole situation is we have a few children who live on national park lands and, obviously, the local school district assumes the burden for those children and the current reimbursement rate is so incredibly low that it really places quite a burden on these very small school districts. So while this would not, the proposed increase would not cover the entire cost of educating these children, it would, I think, take some of the sting out of that and help the school district out a little bit. So the intention is just to raise the amount that the state can reimburse for educating children that live on land which primarily is of benefit to the state and does not generate any tax revenue for the local school district. So I would urge your support for the amendment and I do appreciate the courtesy of the Education Committee for considering this. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is...oh, excuse me, Senator Peterson. The question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to adopt the committee amendments, Mr. President. (See page 598 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Vickers, please.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, LB 592 is permissive in nature. It is permissive in nature to school boards that they may admit nonresident pupils to their district without a tuition payment if such pupils are actually in physical custody of a resident of that district and such students are not resident of an adjoining school district. The reason for this came about because of a few school districts in this state who were strictly interpreting the law that indicates that if you have a pupil in your district who is a