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LB 624

will sit down and go over the different school districts that have taken action, but what they have done thus far is very small in scope compared to what the problem is. We have about two million square feet of asbestos that has been identified in the state so far, and most schools haven't come in yet with their reports. So that is a multimillion dollar problem at two or three, four, five dollars per square foot to clean it up. The schools that have acted are a very small fraction of that to that point. They have done some but the bigger problem is yet out there.

SENATOR BEYER: So then basically the 7 percent would have to stay on what their regular budget is year after year.

SENATOR WESELY: Right.

SENATOR BEYER: It is not going to be inflated to....

SENATOR WESELY: Right.

SENATOR BEYER:be 7 percent of the budget.

SENATOR WESELY: No. No, Senator Beyer, this is a separate item and only for three years and then would not affect the rest of the budget limitation at all.

SENATOR BEYER: I just wanted that on the record that it does not allow them to raise beyond what the others can.

SENATOR WESELY: Oh, no, we are not trying to do that.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I just have one question for Senator Wesely. Do you intend to tap the severance tax anymore for this?

SENATOR WESELY: No. No, we are going....

SPEAKER NICHOL: You don't have that intent now or in the future?

SENATOR WESELY: No, we are...this is going to be...we have taken the approach, local control, local option on this and no state monies involved in assisting the schools at all.

SPEAKER NICHOL: But you are not looking at severance tax at all?