

a laundry list of particulars which I think is a major source of some of the disagreement with this amendment approach that we've had with respect to the Brown amendment and the subsequent Lindsay amendment. Obviously, as cosponsors, Senator Bohlke and Senator Lindsay have agreed to this. I would hope that one or both of them might address this and I think what that...what this does is gives a general intent statement without again getting into the laundry list approach, which, as we all know in various legislative issues, can get us into big trouble down the line with additions and subtractions from that laundry list. I think this sends the message, this amendment sends the message that budget reductions in a school district are to affect the children last, are to affect the classroom last and, at the same time, not getting into a barter, a bartering arrangement over which specific deductions we want to be made prior to the classroom. So I think this is a reasonable place to end up on this amendment and I would hope that the body would see fit to support it. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Bohlke, followed by Senators Kristensen, Bromm, and Chambers.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes, Mr. Speaker and members, I support this. I think it gets, like he said, at the issue that we certainly want to protect the classroom, but the problem is we got more specific and the laundry list got more specific on the Brown amendment. We began to realize that things such as the administrator very well in some small schools could be the head teacher and so, although it's intent language, I don't think we meant to first let the teacher go before we perhaps look at the classes for obvious reasons. So, as we get into trying to micromanage a little or get more definite with that list of things that must be considered, I think it's better to just give the general statement that it is the intention of the Legislature and so I support this and I think it's an improvement over the previous adopted amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Kristensen, followed by Senators Bromm and Chambers.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam...Mr. President, excuse me. Members of the Legislature, this amendment is certainly, for my eyes, better than the Brown amendment because of my philosophy that I don't want specifics in terms of where you're