

school districts, as well as educational service units. So maybe the percentage is wrong for the state, and maybe the total dollar figure is wrong for the state. But the perception of this committee and its study was that this particular formula was the most fair for all different sizes of schools and school districts who are giving services, or all entities, maybe it is the educational service units, are giving these services to people in the state. Now I know Senator Warner has some of his own thoughts on this, which he'll be happy to share with you. I'm saying he'll be happy to share it with you, maybe he won't be. (Laughter.) Excuse me for speaking for you, Senator Warner. But anyway the formula that we felt was the best was the excess cost formula, and I would ask for your adoption of this resolution.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Warner, please.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, maybe I only have a couple of questions so that I am clear what the intent of the resolution is. As I had understood some of the recommendations coming out of the special study committee, if I understand correctly, does intend to either beef up, change, strengthen the auditing process as far as the Department of Education is concerned as one possible cost containment aspect. Your remark, Senator Morehead, answered in part. When I read the resolution it was not clear to me if it was the intent that...what are the words, to continue the excess funding formula approach meant to keep everything as is. I gather, from what you have said, that that would not necessarily be the case. I can understand the fact that we are going to be funding special ed, after the fact, as a deficiency in essence. But if I vote yes am I correct that there is legislation introduced that would possibly change the fiscal impact of special ed, some of which affect the 90 or 100 percent, as the case may be, reimbursement? Some might tighten up qualifications. Am I correct that adopting of this resolution in no way affects or puts a question mark on the Legislature's ability to, this session, to make those kind of changes that might affect some cost reduction?

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Senator Warner, I'm not sure I understand your question, so I want you to reiterate that. I don't believe there has been specific legislation introduced, and I might have to defer to Senator Baack on that, but...