

met here, then I say I come from the philosophy of let's adopt the amendment, let's adopt in toto, then let's run the cost figures and see where we are on it, let's run the statistical figures. So I am saying again to support the amendment as we have proposed it and give us a chance to do that, and then come back keeping in mind, like both Senator Withem and Senator Vickers have pointed out, the two different philosophies, and as far as I am concerned, remembering the cost to school districts over the years along with the shift of equalization dollars which probably affects every one of you and your districts. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Barrett, please.

SENATOR BARRETT: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I, too, rise in support of the Lamb amendment to the amendment. This is a bill which I have co-signed. It is a bill which I am not really in love with but it is a bill which needed to be addressed by this Legislature this session, recognizing that there were two differing philosophies. It was I who introduced the bracketing motion a week ago today in an effort to make certain that both sides had a chance to air their differences, bent their spleen, and perhaps come up with a compromise. I believe that conceptually there was agreement on nearly everything that was talked about. I believe that to be true with the exception of this one area, the reinstatement of the language of per pupil cost which Senator Lamb is now trying to reinstate into the bill, page 6, lines 10 through 15. The language simply creates a minimum floor. It says per pupil costs is the minimum amount that can be charged and, therefore, the inclusion of the language would ensure that the receiving district's school board would receive at least per pupil cost. It seems very simple to me. Senator Lamb has then proposed, if this can be adopted and moved, to hold it until the Department of Education has been able to submit figures to us. How will it impair my district and your district? Let's find out where the inequities are. I think that is a very simple, a very simple request. If it is not something that we can live with, then make the change at that time, and I, personally, would reserve the right even though I am going to support the amendment and the advancement as amended, I would reserve the right, personally, to reconsider my action on Select File. I may or may not support it, but I would urge the body to adopt this amendment and then move the bill to Select File. Thank you,