

that Senator Withem was laying on Senator Ashford's front door about the...his presentation on doing away with the money for the wards of a court when individuals are placed in a different school district and I was very interested in his comments about, Senator Ashford's, about scaling back government and elimination of programs because I really haven't seen him doing that too much and I want to tell you how this was brought up in the Appropriations Committee and I don't know if all of you know this, but Senator Ashford's bill was not a priority bill and it was...and to be real honest about it, Appropriations Committee moved on too many bills into the mainline budget bill and I voted for a lot of those. But when he came to eliminating the \$1.7 million to the public schools for taking care of the wards of the court I disagreed and I'm not saying anything that the committee doesn't know. I asked for a roll call vote. Senator Crosby was kind enough to give me a vote and I was the only one to vote to take 1272, the funding out of 1272 out of the appropriations budget and I firmly believe this. I think it's bad public policy and I'll get into that when we get on to the bill and I really question the way it was done. No other senator had an opportunity to do what Senator Ashford did, but it happened and that's the way it is and when we get to the bill I'm sure Senator Ashford and I will have a lot more to say about it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Moore, followed by Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR MOORE: Well, Madam President and members, as we talk about the committee amendments maybe we just need to talk about the procedure here. Understand that...as Senator Robinson mentioned, LB 1272 is not a bill that came out of the Appropriations Committee. It was a bill that Senator Ashford and myself introduced and went to the Education Committee and came out. I guess this once again is part of the problem we talked about with the Athletic Commission bill is how do we go about moving forward with a bill that takes a statutory change to make a cut in the state budget? And you know there is various ways to do it. I mean the Appropriations Committee can introduce a bill in the first ten days and have a hearing. They could introduce a bill like they did with the Athletic Commission late in the session and be criticized for doing that and that bill met a timely death in the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. Another thing that was historically done in the past sometimes we take another bill within the