

support of elementary and secondary education. I understand since we adopted this amendment that the figure probably is...more appropriately should be \$35,000,000 but I am offering the \$32,000,000 because that is what the committee voted to offer. The advantage of this approach...I also should point out that the committee also directed I should write and we will, another letter to the Department of Revenue to receive their latest estimates on receipts as well as latest estimates on what the full refund might be so that before we adjourn or before we would vote on Final Reading we would have a fairly clear idea about what level of appropriation would be available under the proposal of the committee. But the advantage of course of this level is that we can provide some local property tax relief through aid to schools with no rate change in existing sales and income tax rates. I think it is a reasonable approach. I understand in general that the refunds are running around 16% or so greater than last year by number but that doesn't necessarily tell us anything unless the same people have filed for refunds as of now as did last year but there is some increase in refunds but I would imagine the department can give us a better estimate. I understand that receipts as of the last month that I recall at least, were approximately 1% above estimates. What they will be by the end of March, which figure will be available before we adjourn, I do not know but that of course ought to be figured in as well. But I think what the committee is proposing here is a very reasonable concept and if the body or the majority of the body supports the concept then I would hope it would be adopted and then we can make adjustments as would be required from either the Attorney General's suggestion or other wording adjustment that may be needed to make the amendment consistent with other legislation that is pending. So I would move the adoption of the amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, I would like to ask Senator Warner a question. Senator Warner, I did not really hear, but what will the Attorney General think of this kind of a method of allocation of funds? I think it is a new wrinkle and I think it may need to have a little closer scrutiny.

SENATOR WARNER: I obviously cannot indicate what the Attorney General will think because I don't know what