

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the amendment, Senator Withem, followed by Senator Lamb.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. Speaker, thank you very much. Senator Baack, I wonder if you'd respond to a couple of questions that I have. One of them I visited with you about, one of them I'm catching you totally cold on, I just want to see how well you think on your feet here...

SENATOR BAACK: Okay.

SENATOR WITHEM: ...with the second one, and you probably won't even remember which is which.

SENATOR BAACK: No, I don't.

SENATOR WITHEM: First of all, the question on impact aid is one that relates to a very small number of districts in the state. It's my understanding that that's based on residency of student and that this bill will not impact upon that at all. Is that your understanding?

SENATOR BAACK: That's correct. Yes, it is my understanding.

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay, now the other one, the cold one is, in rereading the previous amendment I noted that we had made some reference to one of the things the department will report on is the amount of money in the Option Support Fund. This amendment basically wipes out the Option Support Fund, doesn't it?

SENATOR BAACK: That's correct.

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay, now I hope this is something that as we pointed out on the floor, your intent is that that portion of the amendment is no longer needed and E & R can probably take care of that change, do you think, in reconciling the two bills, the two amendments?

SENATOR BAACK: In visiting with Kim and with Larry, the legal counsel for the committee, I think that would be an E & R amendment at that point.

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay.

SENATOR BAACK: If not, I have the amendment right here to deal