

Hefner.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, Mr. President and members of the body, I, for reasons similar to Senator Lynch, I'm going to follow the same voting pattern that he suggested. What Senator Ashford is attempting to do, I'm sure, is laudable. He is attempting to put some sense back into...yeah, keep the sense of the bill alive within the Moore amendment. I don't really think he can do that. And it troubles me, I guess, to stipulate on a local school board exactly how they are to spend a particular...something we're calling state aid to education exactly how they are to spend that without any greater guidelines in it. I guess, it's kind of a mixture of here is some generalized money but you've got to spend 80 percent of it this way. The theory of LB 89 is to very carefully target teachers' salaries as an avenue to use state funds with, but the combination of the Ashford amendment, which I think I understand the rationale on which it's offered, with the Moore amendment, you basically end up with in theory LB 89 all over again if you adopt both of these, but in practice if you take what has been a well-thought-out, well-crafted, well-argued, well-developed position that LB 89 is, that's not to say you all have to agree that it's good in the way that it is, but there has been a lot of thought and rationale that's gone into each portion of this bill to determine where the money needs to go, where it...and all of these sorts of things. The combination of the Ashford amendment and the Moore amendment, I don't think is a good idea. Also, I guess, I think we have been on this bill for quite some time. I think we're to the point where we've all spent a lot of time working our way through various thought processes on different machinations of this bill and I'm sensing from my visits with people on the floor that they are ready one way or the other, they are ready to vote on LB 89. Mr...Mr. President, I might ask just for a point of clarification from the Clerk or from you, have there been any amendments adopted to this bill other than the committee amendments?

PRESIDENT: Not lately but, yes, this morning.

SENATOR WITHEM: There was Senator Moore's amendment the other day, I believe, that was and that's about it. But we have, since Senator Moore's amendment a way long time ago, we have debated and argued this bill, really haven't brought out any changes in it. We have discussed all the different aspects of it. I think we're kind of getting ready to the point where it's