

a look at studying it a little longer, and not jump to some kind of a conclusion. Well, I don't think LB 611 falls in that category. It clearly is not, with an 18 month window, jumping to any kind of conclusion. It allows for the committee which is currently in place to continue to look at this issue, bring some legislation or recommendations to the Legislature for our perusal. It does not lay in statute the answer to the problem. What it does is say that we want to deal with this issue and here is our time line for trying to come up with a proposed answer. It is not something that if necessary could not be changed. If we cannot agree to it, it clearly is not going to be enacted. We all know that. All it takes is 25 votes in opposition to clearly delay any proposal that does not meet the fancy of the body. So to adopt Senator Haberman's amendment I don't think is in the best interest of, basically, the taxpayers. I think we need to push this as fast as we can, and I don't think an 18 month window for the recommendations to be brought back and information to be compiled to be a too short a period of time. I would urge the body to reject Senator Haberman's amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Senator Johnson, Senator Rod Johnson, followed by Senator Bernard-Stevens.

**SENATOR R. JOHNSON:** Mr. President, any unused time that I have, I will relinquish to Senator Moore. Mr. President and members, I guess I will support Senator Haberman's amendment. I would also have supported Senator Warner's motion if he'd have offered it. I see that there are two distinct subject matters in this bill. One, of course, is the income approach that Senator Moore is advocating we take and which I agree with. The other, of course, is ending the funding mechanism for school finance that we have in this state, and putting the gun to our head and saying, we either do something about school finances or chaos will abound. Well, as I said on the original adoption of the Moore amendment, I would prefer that we have an idea as to what that financing mechanism is going to look like before I am asked to vote on it. I want it in hand. I want to see what it does for my school district. I want to see what it does to education in this state, and if it is a meritorious proposal, if it is a proposal that I think good enough for this body to adopt, then I think this Legislature will move forward with it. I have heard arguments that we have to have some measurement here, we have to have some way of ending this process, we have got to make sure that we have a deadline at the end of this schedule so that we