

find a little poop sheet that's just been passed out relative to this amendment, entitled "Conway Amendment to AM1377". Up in the corner it also shows amendment 1434 and that should read 1436, in case you're cross referencing the various amendments that will be coming around on this bill. What my amendment to Senator Lynch's amendment...and the only reason since we're on Select File it's not an attempt to garner support for an amendment with less than 25 since we're on Select File, it will take the 25, I offered it to Senator Lynch's amendment in part to raise the issue before several other amendments are maybe brought forward and that was the reason why I'm amending Senator Lynch's amendment at this point. On that sheet that I passed out, basically, it describes the amendment. What I hear people saying relative to 89 and have heard many of you and I guess I have also shared this with many of my constituents when this issue was brought up at several meetings both with teachers and other people, I have listed at the beginning of that sheet, I think, sustainable funding has always been certainly a question that's been raised. I think the concept of local control with respect to letting our school boards set the minimum salaries is still a right that they believe they deserve and want and I think many people in this body still at least espouse on an ongoing basis the concept of local control. And, thirdly, I have had and continue to have a real problem with reinforcing and rewarding those people for...or those school districts for a substandard salary. What we're dealing with in this bill in the Phase I and II as we know it now is the Phase I we are going to supplement those salaries and with the Lynch amendment that he is offering at \$17,000, anyone short of \$17,000 we're going to ultimately subsidize those up to \$17,000. To me, that is reinforcing and sending out a message that all those school districts who have dug down, who have had to increase their tax levies, who have done whatever they could do to try to recruit and maintain and support the teachers in their districts and have really dug down to bring their salaries up, they aren't going to be participating in that particular level of funding. What we are going to do is take those school districts who have had their teachers in salary thumb screws for a long period of time, have held those salaries down, we're now going to say, okay, we're going to bail you out. Phase I, in my mind, is nothing more than a bail-out for school districts who have not been very responsive to the professionals in their educational settings. What my amendment does, the first one is sustainable funding, I think that is a separate question. How much money goes into the pot, I think is a separate question that Senator