

to be difficult without having this in front of you but I will go slow...(b) Subtract the municipality's index from one and multiply the resulting amount by the municipality's population percentage; (c) Add the amount obtained pursuant to subdivision (b) of this subsection to the municipality's population percentage; and multiply...this is just going to be unbelievable. You are not going to be able to follow this. I think I had just better wait until you get it in front of you. Essentially, we are taking a per capita basis, and there is a factor in here that factors in the age of the population, as well, so that you also make allowances for populations that are not only poor but also have an aging population. The net effect of this will be to shift money to those communities that are, in fact, the smallest and the poorest in the state, and when you see the language, that is, essentially, what it does. I will wait until you get that in front of you rather than try to walk through something that is going to be meaningless to you until you have it in front of you. That is the amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the Scofield amendment to 683? Senator Warner, would you care to discuss the Scofield amendment? Thank you. Senator Smith. Senator Smith, would you care to discuss the Scofield amendment? Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker. I need to see what she is talking about. I wanted to ask her some questions, so I do feel we need to see it in writing.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Withem, anything on the Scofield amendment?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, this is a bill that I have been unavoidably absent other times that it has been debated, so I have not been able to speak. Senator Scofield, as I understand what your amendment does is very simply it shifts the distribution of the dollars from its current formula, which is, basically, a per capita formula, to some sort of weighted factor so the poor communities receive more of the dollars. On the surface, it doesn't sound that bad but I am not going to support it. Let me tell you why, and I would urge you not to support it either. Number one, and I preface this by saying I have been through a number of distribution fights over dollars that go into the state aid to education formula. This, frankly, is probably going to be