

take care of it, we handle it, we do it just like we do the SSIG money, exactly. We say this is the rules and regs that you live by, here's the amount of money that we're willing to expend, and that is what you have. And the rules and regs are established by the Department of Ed. The folks that are the force behind this program have worked closely with the Department of Ed. to promulgate the rules and regulations will take little or no time, basically they've been written for the Department of Ed., all they have to do is approve, modify to whatever extent necessary and it's very likely the program could be and should be in place for the fall semester this year. There is no problem in terms of how will this program grow, because we will have the ability, budget year in and budget year out, to reaffirm this program and to allocate and to budget whatever the Legislature feels is appropriate to spend in this area. It is not an issue of a program that is going to run amuck in terms of what the dollars just running up and running up and running up. The situation here is one of recognizing the importance and the role that private education plays for all taxpayers in the state. Granted, it is clearly a choice that private school parents make when they make the decision to send their children, 37,000 of them in the state, to the school of their choice. And they pay for that, they pay for that choice. What we are doing here is allowing students, not schools but students to have the ability to borrow books from the public school sector to use in their classrooms. This is not going to be a situation where they run out and...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...say we want all our books brought in for purposes of educating our kids not having to pay the cost. My book bill for my first grader I do not expect to go down, when she enters the second grade next year. I'm going to still have to pay \$65 or whatever it was this year. The textbook loan program is not going to impact that one iota, but it will allow for the ability, when a public school system has, for example, calculus books on their shelves that a private school class would like to be able to borrow, the ability to do that. And the state will pay for those. It is not a situation where there is going to be unlimited resources available for this. We budget it in there at 150,000, we've allowed, through this amendment, or we will through this amendment, for the rules and regs and the implementation of the program. You say that there is roughly 125,000 available for the purposes of the program, it