

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: No, and let me if I...can I just take a little minute? What we need is to have the opportunities. I mean, the pattern is set now. Senator Moore is correct, as much as I hate to admit sometimes. We've got everything up here on the board to choose from except one thing and that is direct state aid to education. And I don't think there is anybody here that could disagree that that's not the only choice left that we don't have and, truly, if this body is going to make those decisions that at the end we're going to make those final selections based on the available money no matter what that is, it isn't fair to the local schools, the children and those political subdivisions not to have this choice up here right now.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I couldn't agree with you more but did not this body turn down state aid to education earlier in the year? Haven't we already made that choice?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Senator Schimek, I'm not sure what you're referring to, so I...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Well, as I recall, didn't Senator Withem have a bill up earlier this year that was state aid, or am I remembering wrong?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I think what Senator Withem had was a \$50 million that was going to be set aside for property tax relief in some manner.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Oh, that was property tax, okay. Thank you.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: But that would, that could happen here. In fact, that's what I would like to see happen is that to give some meaning to LB 84 you're going to need some aid to, state aid to education just to absorb the increase of cost so that the benefits coming back under 84 will be realized, otherwise they are just going to be absorbed.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. I just...I think that there are many other members here who feel as I do that you're making our choices more difficult, not less difficult, and I think that things are getting to the point where we are all going to end up voting for all of these measures and then it's going to be up to the Governor to make