

SENATOR LYNCH: The way the bill is drafted, the independence of the school districts still exists because we give them to the...we give this money to the districts based on a formula and a distribution formula, and the school districts, themselves, have the obvious obligation to determine who gets the money and how much it's...how much that will be. And if, in fact, we heard the arguments like Senator Hefner just offered that these are all wonderful people and we should give them this aid and never ask any questions, I guess there shouldn't be any problem with this then as well.

SENATOR MOORE: Yeah, and I think you answered my question and I'll also let Senator Withem have a stab at answering the same way so it's very clear. Senator Withem, I guess I will ask you a different question, Senator Withem. Let's say, for instance...

SENATOR WITHEM: But I have the answer to that one.

SENATOR MOORE: Let's say, for instance, we want to raise a school district's frozen salaries at this year's...this past year's level going into next year, frozen salaries at the same level. They got LB 89 funds, I mean, is that possible they could do that and, in essence, instead of giving a salary increase, salaries would stay the same, LB 89 funds would come in, other receipts possibly would go down. Is that possible under the way the bill is written?

SENATOR WITHEM: It's probably theoretically possible. I would hope...I don't want to take too much of your time, I'm just going to say theoretically it is possible and give maybe a little longer explanation when my time comes up to speak unless you would like me to go into more detail now.

SENATOR MOORE: Well, I'll let you use your time to...to...I'm going to withdraw the amendment. I want to have this conversation on the record so it's clear and I guess I will give you the rest of my time if you want it because one thing I want to say is...the other question is, well, let's...is it the intent of the introducers of the bill that whatever money a school district gets per teacher, is that...there's been several discussions here about bypassing the local school board, is the intent that whatever a teacher figures into the formula, that is the amount of increase they should conceivably get? And so,