

district.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well, I can...I could foresee maybe a problem with a local school district. I'm perfectly willing to abide by their decision but I just wanted to ask the question and you have clarified it. There is no penalty...

SENATOR WITHEM: Not as well as I should have.

SENATOR HABERMAN: ...except violating state law and the money goes to the school. They get it in the bank and then they go ahead and pay it out. Is that correct, Senator Withem?

SENATOR WITHEM: I just was handed here, Senator Haberman, Section 7 of the bill and I apologize for not knowing this more directly. Any provider who misappropriates program funds shall have twice the amount misappropriated deducted from the provider of state aid for the subsequent year. There is, in fact, a penalty for misappropriation in this bill.

SENATOR HABERMAN: And how...who is going to keep track of this?

SENATOR WITHEM: We have a state auditor process. We also have the State Department of Education that's responsible for administering the program.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Thank you, Senator Withem.

SPEAKER BARRETT: I'll go through a number of lights quickly. Senator Moore said that he would withdraw unless somebody wanted to talk on it. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Yes, Mr. President, just a couple of things as long as we're getting into legislative history. Quite frankly, I never have thought too much of legislative history as courts really haven't thought too much of legislative history unless there is some confusion in the legislation. And I think the bill is pretty straightforward. There's maybe some confusion here on the floor but if you read the bill, it's pretty clear as to who is going to be paid, the teachers are going to be paid and the formula is established and if they don't provide that money, then there is a certain amount of penalty provisions that are provided for. One thing I do want to clarify though. I have been receiving some calls from...from individuals over this issue and it's always coming back to the issue of property tax