

let's go on and discuss other issues. I'd yield any of my time remaining back to Senator Withem.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. This all came about fairly quickly. Maybe I've explained to the body that as you know the other day some of us were...expressed a great deal of frustrations about the whole state aid issue itself. The way the issue had been handled this session by the folks who are being paid to represent the schools and the fact that, as I understand, nobody on the Appropriations Committee even had been contacted by any members of the education lobby after the day of the hearing on Senator Chizek's bill that would have called for a \$38 million increase into state aid. A number of things were said in frustration and some degree of anger, some concerns about how this bill would impact on other bills. I continue to share...to have a lot of that frustration. As a matter of fact, I have not been very loud about it. I didn't have them printed in the Journal, but I do have a series of amendments up there on the bill that would have the effect of taking the full state aid increase out of this bill. It is one-thirty on the last day we have to act on legislation if we're going to make any changes and it's probably not a good use of the body's time to sit and watch somebody with laryngitis and a bad head cold stand here and kill the afternoon, running amendment after amendment. I don't particularly want to do that. I think what Senator Kristensen is proposing here that we, you know, simply this is the trailer bill. It is a bill that the Governor will have to act upon that we simply cut the appropriation we had in half, put that in the bill and go on and deal with other things for today. We'll still, I'm sure, get an opportunity to deal with this in an attempt to override and we'll all make our decisions on how we deal with that, but at this time to say that the state aid issue does need to be addressed in some regard and we're not going to ignore it totally this year when we had money on the table, that we compromise on this approach and I would urge the body to adopt this particular amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Discussion on the Withem-Kristensen motion, Senator Hefner, followed by Senators Kristensen, Withem, Bernard-Stevens, Warner, Moore, Lamb and Nelson. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I