

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members, in order to try and help expedite the things this morning on this bill, I would like to suggest to Senator Schmit, Senator Morrissey, Senator Beck, Senator Hefner, Senator Wesely and Senator Schimek, all who have direct interest in this bill and all who have I think either amendments pending or are considering introducing amendments, that potentially what we can do this morning, not to take a lot of time on the floor and piecemeal this bill to death, as Senator Schimek has said, rather I think we could get together as a collective group, sit down in my office or somebody's office and start talking about how we want to structure this bill so that we can get it passed this year. That's my major concern. I think there is more interest in this issue than ever before. We have a prime opportunity to get something done. But I would prefer not to waste a lot of the time on the floor here with a number of amendments that a lot of people haven't had a chance to see, a lot of people may not understand how the amendments work. And to all of those senators, as Senator Schmit has indicated, there are a lot of different ideas on how to proceed with 163. Senator Schmit has said to broaden the base of support for the bill to base this program on grants on need by a community rather than just an open-ended bill, also the state and local planning concept. So I would ask Senator Morrissey and the other senators, if they would like, I would much prefer, as the principle introducer at least, to work with each of you as a group and see if there isn't a meeting we can put together and try and solve all of these problems, advance the bill this morning to Select File, and between General and Select we can, hopefully, incorporate a lot of different ideas that are floating on this floor today. So I'd ask a question of Senator Morrissey, if he would yield. Would that be acceptable to you, Senator?

PRESIDENT: Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Or would you like to proceed with your amendment?

SENATOR MORRISSEY: I might like to close on it, and then possibly withdraw it.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Okay. That's fine, thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Morrissey, would you like to close on your amendment, please.