

to commend you, Senator Withem, for your attempt to bring them up-to-date, but I hope in the process that they don't forget the basic skills. I'm going to have to go back and reexamine my notes on this bill last year. And it just seems to me that schools ought to be in the forefront of knowing what is going on, how to reform, restructure, and adapt to the modern problems we face today. Thank you very much.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Pirsch, please, on this bill.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would have some questions for Senator Withem, if he will yield.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Senator Withem, would you respond?

SENATOR WITHEM: Be happy to.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Senator Withem, the first thing that I noted when I looked at this bill and at the committee statement is that in the committee statement it says 200,000 and in the bill in Section 6 it talks about appropriating 300,000. Could you explain to me the difference?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, the committee statement is wrong. The bill is...and there would be a conflict between the two. What's written in the bill would...what I planned on doing once we...we wrote in the appropriation into the bill. What I plan on doing because we ran into a confusion problem last year is striking the language out of the bill here and introducing an A bill and we can let the Legislature decide whether it ought to be 100,000, a million dollars, whatever it should be. At this point, this is the intent of the Legislature to later on appropriate the \$300,000 and that would be the more accurate figure to discuss.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Okay, thank you. And the summary of purpose talks about these grant recipients must represent a balance in school size, geographic location and philosophy. I don't see that in the bill either. What do you mean by philosophy? How are these grant programs going to choose school systems that vary in philosophy.

SENATOR WITHEM: Well, in the bill the language you are referring to is on page 6, I guess the word "philosophy", I