

amendment. Clarify that the state income tax dedicated in Section 4 of the bill are for funding the new distribution formula in the bill, not for funding existing programs. Again, it clarifies that this new income tax that we have is for funding this particular bill. Number three, this was suggested to us by a small school district down south of Lincoln that is concerned about their inability to regenerate cash reserves, again this is a technical portion of the bill where we're trying to give school districts an opportunity, some that don't have reserves, an ability to increase their reserves, we say each year they can increase their reserves by 2 percent. The bill doesn't say 2 percent of what. This is not an exception from the lid, but it's an ability for them to put money into a reserve without it counting against their opening balance the next year. It should be 2 percent, not of what's in their reserve, but 2 percent of what their budget is. And, finally, number four, there is in the bill a follow-up school finance committee, there is legislative representation on it. Currently, the bill calls for that representation to be appointed by the Governor. This says that the Legislature should choose it's own representation, it should be chosen by the Executive Board of the Legislature. Again, technical sorts of amendments, they, I think, rival Senator Hall's for being technical sorts of amendments. If you have questions, I'd respond to them, otherwise I would urge you to support AM2820.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion of the amendment offered by Senator Withem. Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Landis. Senator Scofield.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Mr. President and members, I rise generally to support this amendment. But I haven't had a chance to visit with Senator Withem, but I did speak to a gentleman, over lunch, that was still raising some concerns about the reserve limit. He's down in Senator Beyer's district. And we may have to address this again on Select File, the cash reserve limit. It's a circumstance that I don't know that any of my schools face. I have known this fellow for quite a while, and I just call that to your attention, that we may need to come back to that one to address the problems he's experiencing in his unique situation. There may be, he tells me, five or six other school districts. So I just call that to your attention. Thank you. You may have the rest of my time, if you want to talk about that.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Withem.