

this earlier, not that I was opposed to the concept, I felt it was coming plenty fast. I do feel that these cleanup amendments are needed to make the bill work now. I acknowledge that, but I am a tad bit frustrated because in order to make this thing hold we're going to throw potentially a million dollars in aid now, assuming LB 1059 which was not around a year ago at this time. And so that's my little bit uncertainty as to what to do here because we are going to increase by a significant amount of money adding to our A bills this year if, in fact, you would have to preclude LB 1059. So I do have a concern in this area that simply to make the bill work we're going to have to throw more state aid to it and I will be listening carefully. If you have any other comments, you may make the comments, Senator Baack.

SENATOR BAACK: Yes, Senator Wehrbein, that's also a concern of mine. But as we went around the state with the hearings, the concern was that...and one of the things that I didn't want to do with choice is I did not want to so harm a resident district's budget that they couldn't make the changes that were necessary to keep offering a good quality education for the students that are left. I think Senator Lamb brought that up last year. And so this was one way to address that. They are going to...they're still going to lose, the local district is still going to lose under this because if they have any kinds of state aid, if they receive state aid in any form, those dollars will come off of the payment that the state makes to them. That's why it's also difficult to define the numbers, the total numbers that go into it. But I have the same concern that you do. But I don't want to...the goal of this thing is to make for better education for all kids in the state and if we hurt the resident districts' budgets too heavily, we might harm some education for some kids and that's why I'm willing to propose this solution to the problem.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Lynch. Thank you, that won't be necessary. Senator Baack, would you like to close on the adoption of your amendment?

SENATOR BAACK: Very briefly, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the questions and I wish that all of you could have been at the hearings. I know a number of senators did attend the hearings as we went around the state and to listen to the input that we had on this bill and I think that we have addressed most of their concerns with this bill and are still continuing to work