

changes. There are some revisions that have come forward as a result of the Department of Education printouts, but the fact still remains that if this money is taken away in the future after this hold harmless does take effect, they will be losing out. So that is the purpose of the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Crosby, please, followed by Senator Withem. Senator Withem, you are next, Senator Smith follows.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, we dealt yesterday, I thought, and I think, I shouldn't say I thought as if it was something in the past, I think yesterday we dealt with this amendment, the concept of the hold harmless in as fair a way as we were going to. Like many issues in here, we have people who feel strongly on both sides of an issue, some people thinking that we ought to have the hold harmless in perpetuity. Others, like Senator Landis in here, gave a good speech the other day explaining why a hold harmless was, in his opinion, was unfair at all. What the committee did was we started with a phased-out hold harmless. What we did yesterday amended the bill to have a hold harmless at 100 percent for at least three years, or for three years, I guess I should say, with a directive to the School Finance Review Commission to bring back a recommendation to us as to how we should deal with the hold harmless question into the future. And like we do with political compromises, both sides give a little bit and I think that is what we did yesterday. I am comfortable with what we have done as far as the hold harmless in perpetuity issue is concerned. It is one, personally, I probably could have supported the Abboud amendment, or the Smith amendment, or even the Lamb amendment as it was listed on General File, but there are those who feel strongly that we should not do a perpetual hold harmless. What the body did yesterday I think is came together in a spirit of compromise on the hold harmless issue, and I think we ought to leave it as we decided yesterday, rather than adopting this amendment at this point, although I certainly understand and sympathize with those people who think perpetual hold harmless is a good idea.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Smith, please.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, the reason that I pulled this amendment was because of the fact that I had this up there before the Kristensen-Baack amendment