

came up yesterday, and since it did have the provision for the three years 100 percent hold harmless, and then with the provision that it should be looked at in that time to see whether it should become a permanent hold harmless, I pulled my amendment. But I just had to stand and say that I don't know whether...because Senator Abboud just visited with me about this a few minutes before we left the floor at noon, I think it was, or whenever this morning, and I don't know whether you even had the information, Senator Abboud, that was provided to me and that is that originally we were told this would be \$6.1 million, but if you subtract out the federal impact, aid to school districts, then you end up with the cost to the state of being only about \$2 million a year. So that even makes it better, and this was given to me by the Research Division. So, you know, I will still support this amendment, even though it is yours now. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask "Two-gun" Withem if he would like to stop leaning against the rail back there and come and answer a question or two.

PRESIDENT: Senator Withem, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Withem, in order that I can understand really what is happening, there is a hold harmless provision in the bill now for a period of three years.

SENATOR WITHEM: At 100 percent, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And Senator Abboud's amendment would make it forever.

SENATOR WITHEM: That is correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: At 100 percent?

SENATOR WITHEM: Right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Did you agree with the three-year provision?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I did.