

state aid paid to each district. I just feel that it's a matter of tax equity. It ensures that state aid payments are made on a fair and a rational basis, taking into consideration each pupil receiving education at a public school and not leaving them out. So this would not have any fiscal impact, but it would redistribute the funds in a little way. If you have any questions I'd be...I'd try to answer them for you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hefner. I'll now recognize senators in the following order: Senator Withem, Schellpeper, Robak and Robinson. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Madam Chair, members of the body, I support Senator Hefner's amendment. It is as he stated a situation where in counting the numbers of students for purposes of distribution of money to the public schools, the public school could count those students that it educates on a part-time basis. This is not...maybe I'd be better off using my time to say, Senator Hefner, what this is not because I know every time you start talking about impact of private school students on public schools it gets into that shaky area where people begin to get concerned, but this does not allow the public school to count all of the students that live in their community that go to the private school in distribution of state aid. That would be a major shift in the distribution of dollars were that to happen. This does not do that. It only counts them to the extent that they use the public schools. This is not tuition credits, tax credits. We'll get an opportunity to debate that. By the way, that is an idea that I support and do not oppose by any stretch of the imagination, but we'll get an opportunity to discuss that at a later date. This is not that proposal. This is simply a matter of allowing the public schools to count those students that attend on a part-time basis for purposes of their distribution of state aid. Senator Hefner has had this bill in two or three different times and it's one of those ideas that just has not been quite able to find its way through the maze of legislative process. It is not a major financial impact. I think under the old formula the plan was to count these students for foundation aid distribution. We did a survey through the Education Committee and came to the conclusion it wouldn't be, would not be...be far, far less than \$100,000. I don't remember what the full impact would be but it would be fairly slight and I support the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator