

not suggesting quite the level of increase that was recommended by the Appropriations Committee. Instead of an overall increase to \$32 for funding teacher certification, we are recommending that that only be a \$30 fee. It will still cash flow. It won't cash flow quite as well. The folks in the department we talked to said that the \$32.50 that the bill would have given them would have cash flowed for a longer time period, but a \$30 fee will be adequate for a number of years. We are recommending on the other side, however, that although the current \$12.50 fee would not cash flow the current budget of the Professional Practices Commission, we, as the Education Committee, are recommending that we lower the current 12.50 down to 10, and then I will be coming in with an amendment on Select File to the budget bill that will decrease the Professional Practices Commission's budget to 75 percent of what it is now, as opposed to 105 percent, which I believe is in the current budget bill as recommended by the Appropriations Committee. The rationale for that as the committee heard testimony, it became apparent that a lot of the work of the Professional Practices Commission that they used to have no longer exists. We passed a bill, 575 I believe was the bill number, sponsored by Senator Barrett a couple of years ago, that pretty drastically decreased the amount of work that the Professional Practices Commission had. So I am going to be recommending that we lower their budget down to 75 percent level, that we adjust the fee back, instead of the current 12.50, back to 10. That will mean a total certificate fee of \$40. That would be, I think, kind of stopgap measure. Senator Warner and I were visiting yesterday about a need to look in other avenues for how this current function of the Professional Practices Commission can be handled because we did, in fact, take away the investigative duties from this group, put them in the Department of Education, a funding that \$100,000 a year level at this point. We will be looking at other ways in which we might be able to handle this Professional Practices Commission so that it is not quite as expensive a proposition as it currently is in the budget, given the fact that we have taken away a lot of their prosecutorial duties. With that, if I haven't totally butchered up the explanation of it, or if I have totally butchered it up, Senator Robinson maybe will help us with that. Senator Moore will help us with that, but the committee amendments are instead of a \$50 fee, a \$40 fee, in a nutshell.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Robinson, followed by Senator Moore. Senator Robinson.