

SENATOR MORRISSEY: The change though was some that we...we...that we overrode the Claims Board somehow, didn't we, in the change of law and...

SENATOR SCHMIT: We addressed the issue as to whether or not if a claim exceeded \$5 million, I believe, that it would just go directly to the Legislature because we have to appropriate the money anyway and if we're going to do that, then why not come directly to the Legislature rather than to the Tort Claims Board. I believe, as I said, the Tort Claims Board indicated that they would only offer...they would only address a claim of \$5,000 or less anyway. And so this...it was in making a reference to that, that I offered that other language.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: And there are other claims that they just turn down routinely anyway because of amounts or without even looking, in my opinion, at just cause.

SENATOR SCHMIT: You are correct. And I think perhaps, Senator Morrissey, that we ought to review the entire area of the Claims Board because we have very little recourse if they choose not to address that issue in the manner which the Legislature intended. And so I think the entire issue might ought to be better addressed in another bill.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Okay. And I have a question for Senator Moore.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Moore, would you respond, please.

SENATOR MOORE: I'll speak over here.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: If you would refresh my memory, this money, how would this affect your budget or our budget?

SENATOR MOORE: If the Legislature made the decision that this was an appropriation we should make, we would have to decrease the package sent to the floor by \$30 million. Now that...20 of that...if you didn't pass any A bills, you would get 20 of that and still have to find another 10 someplace else, you still have to pass all the A bills and you have to find 30 in the mainline bill or that would be the equivalent of either across the board cuts in state government and higher ed, 1 percent of \$5 million, that would be 6 percent.